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MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA

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OAPEC MINISTERIAL COUNCIL MEETS IN KUWAIT

Libyan-Algerian Stand

LD0915447Y Tripoli JANA in English 1423 GMT 9 May 78 LD

[Text] Tripoli, May 9, JANA--Mr 'Izz ad-Din al-Mabruk, the oil secretary, last night arrived in Kuwait, on his way from Saudi Arabia, to take part in the meeting of the Ministerial Council of the Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC).

Mr al-Mabruk was received by Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah, the Kuwaiti oil minister [name and title as received] and Dr 'Ali Atiqah, secretary-general of OAPEC and deputy oil minister of Kuwait [name and title as received], and the Libyan and Algerian charge d'affaires in Kuwait.

The oil secretary and the Algerian oil minister issued a joint statement in which they affirmed that the Jamahiriyah and Algeria will continue to call for adjusting oil prices to compensate for the reduction in the dollar's value. They said that this subject will continue to be discussed within OAPEC until the price of crude oil is raised.

Morning Session

JN0912222Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1145 GMT 9 May 78 JN

[Text] Kuwait, 9 May--The 20th ministerial meeting of the Organization of Arab Petroleum-Exporting Countries [OAPEC] concluded its morning session here today and approved the formation of a juridical committee for the organization. An agreement pertaining to this committee will be signed tonight.

The meeting also approved an agreement on the establishment of an Arab petroleum institute for training, which is to be based in Baghdad.

Tayih 'Abd al-Karim, member of the Revolution Command Council and Iraqi oil minister, announced Iraq's readiness to pay the share of any country which does not contribute to the capital of the institute and to concede this share when the country concerned decides later to make this contribution.

At this morning's session, the OAPEC council set a period of 2 months during which the member states must decide the percentage of their contributions to the institute's council.

The OAPEC ministers also approved the holding of an annual symposium on the basics of the petroleum and gas industry and adopted the OAPEC Executive Office's recommendation on the formulation of an Arab policy on oil refining aimed at guided production.

The meeting adopted another recommendation to study the possibility of carrying out a joint Arab project on oil production.

The ministers will meet again tonight to sign the documents and the resolutions which they adopted in their morning meeting and to fix the dates and places for the next meetings of the OAPEC Executive Office and Ministerial Council.

Concluding Session

LD0903119Y Riyadh SNA in Arabic 2010 GMT 9 May 78 LD

[Text] Kuwait--The OAPEC Ministerial Council ended its 20th session in Kuwait this evening by approving the organizations's program of action for the next 5 years.

The press statement issued at the end of the council's meetings, held under the chairmanship of Kuwaiti Oil Minister Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah as-Sabah [name as received], said that the organization's juridical protocol was signed. A resolution for the establishment of an Arab oil refinery institute in Baghdad was also signed.

The council decided to refer the project of oil lubrication to the Arab Financial Investment Company so that it can complete the economic feasibility studies of the project. It also decided to refer the proposed basis for the adoption of a joint Arab refinery policy to the member countries of the organization in preparation for its presentation at the next meeting of the organization, which is to be held in Abu Dhabi next 12 December.

The council charged the OAPEC secretary general with taking the necessary measures for building the organization's headquarters. The council also approved the final account of the organizations for 1977.

PALESTINE CENTRAL COUNCIL TO MEET IN DAMASCUS 20 MAY

JN1000945Y Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0800 GMT 10 May 78 JN

[Text] The Palestine Central Council will hold a meeting in Damascus on 20 May to discuss the latest developments of the Palestinian question in the Lebanese arena and on the Arab and international levels.

In a press statement last evening, the PLO official spokesman stated that the council will also discuss the report of the PLO Executive Committee on its activities during the past 3 months, the situation in the occupied territories and the possibility of convening the Palestine National Council.

BAGHDAD VOP DENOUNCES ROLE OF FRENCH FORCES

JN0920185Y Baghdad Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1845 GMT 9 May 78 JN

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Brothers, to shed light on the mission of the imperialist French forces in particular and the UN forces in general, we state the following facts which unmask the mission entrusted to these forces--to liquidate the armed struggle in Lebanon:

1. The French forces brought with them modern combat equipment and military vehicles. This is in addition to the fact that in their statements French officials did not conceal the fact that their forces did not come to southern Lebanon for an excursion, but to perform a specific mission. A French Government source said this recently. He said that France is ready to increase the number of its forces beyond 4,000 soldiers. The French Government has supplied its forces with modern equipment in proportion to the size of the mission entrusted to these forces. These are the words of a senior French official.

7. U.S. intelligence officers are present among the French troops. The head of these officers, (Zigler), affirms that the French troops in particular and the UN deterrent forces in general are carrying out an imperialist mission that constitutes the core of the imperialist-Zionist plan for the area--to liquidate the armed struggle.

8. French imperialism is trying to raise its ugly imperialist and defeatist face. Today this imperialism plays a role that derives from its position as a tool of U.S. imperialism. This is in addition to the fact that by this role French imperialism [words indistinct] in Chad, Zaire Korea [as heard] and the Western Sahara. This imperialism also wants to be in Lebanon to play the same role.

9. These forces do not represent the masses of the French people and their progressive forces. These forces have nothing to do with the struggling French people who condemn the mission of these forces. The mission of these forces offends the French people, just as it does the Arab masses.

10. The presence of the French forces reveals the fascist tendencies prevailing in French bourgeois circles, who cannot directly express themselves in France. For this reason these circles resort to such methods to strengthen their centers in France.

Brothers, from these facts, the reality of the liquidationist mission of the French forces becomes clear. This mission has revealed itself by its confrontation of the Palestinian and Lebanese revolutionaries in many positions, and by clashing with them in battles. The aim of these battles is to prevent the fighters from striking at Zionist enemy concentrations and from exercising their right to fight the enemy.

We say with our loudest voice that he who tries to prevent us from continuing our fight by making his forces into a barrier to protect our enemy, under any justifications whatsoever, will make himself into a direct target for the guns of the revolutionaries. This is the stand of the revolutionaries. It is a fighting stand.

'ARAFAT INTERVIEWED BY ATHENS NEWSPAPER

AT0911425Y Athens PROINI ELEVTHEROTIPIA in Greek 9 May 78 p 9 AT

[Exclusive interview with PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat by PROINI ELEVTHEROTIPIA reporter Akhilleas Khatzopoulos given in 'Arafat's headquarters somewhere in Beirut--date not given]

[Text] Khatzopoulos: Mr 'Arafat, I would like for you to give me your opinion on how the situation in southern Lebanon is shaping up at this time.

'Arafat: You know that during the great battle that took place in the war in southern Lebanon our volunteers and the Lebanese army--volunteers too--repulsed the 30,000-38,000 Israelis who were armed with various types of tanks, airplanes, a navy and mainly armed with very modern U.S. arms like the F-15, Lance rockets and so forth.

According to evaluations, the Israelis began their invasion aiming at the PLO, its army, its representatives and at noncombatant Palestinians. I regret to say that this invasion took place with the approval of the U.S. Government. The entire conspiracy was revealed in statements by both Kissinger and Vance. However, there was a great, brave resistance to this barbaric invasion.

Of course, you know that the Israelis killed about 1,000 Palestinian and Lebanese citizens, occupied 82 villages, of which 6 were completely destroyed, and in addition, that 7 of our camps were destroyed.

However, the principal aim of the Israeli invasion failed. They were not able to occupy the areas they wanted to occupy. Now they speak about a withdrawal of their troops in accordance with UN Security Council Resolution 425. My opinion is that they will not obey this resolution, since already they have begun playing some tricks. They will continue to occupy part of southern Lebanon, in fact a strip about 7 to 10 kilometers in depth from the Lebanese border.

Furthermore, we should remember that as a result of this invasion 230,000 Palestinians and Lebanese were forced to abandon their homes, their villages and their camps. We had to confront this tragedy immediately and effectively, if not completely at least partially, until we were able to receive aid from various Arab and international sources and from our friends in Cyprus. At first it was very difficult for us, but finally we were able to confront this critical situation. Now the UN forces have begun arriving. Their number exceeds 4,000 men and, according to Dr Waldheim, will reach 6,000. I hope that they will be able to supervise the withdrawal of the Israeli invaders from southern Lebanon.

Khatzopoulos: I would like to ask you what are the relations between the PLO and the Government of President Sarkis in Lebanon and how do you view the unity of the whole of Lebanon?

'Arafat: We are on very good terms with President Sarkis and have concluded certain agreements with the Lebanese authorities. We respect these agreements and I think that on the basis of these agreements they will continue to deal with us.

Of course, it must be understood that the conspiracy that began in southern Lebanon has not ended and that it has some roots here in Lebanon. The conspiracy will continue in different forms and shades. The people who are elaborating the conspiracy intend to reap benefits, actually here, in Beirut. We, however, in the PLO have decided to outflank any conspiracy and not to let any conspirator succeed. We are cooperating with President Sarkis, the cabinet and the Lebanese authorities on this issue.

Khatzopoulos: Do you believe, Mr 'Arafat, that Dr Waldheim's role can be substantive in this area of the world and in the problem you are now facing?

'Arafat: This is a very serious question. However, I hope that through the UN security forces Dr Waldheim will be able to supervise the withdrawal of the Israelis from southern Lebanon. On the other hand, I know personally from Dr Waldheim that he intends to respond to the invitation emanating from various segments of the Middle East complex to come under the UN flag. However, according to my reports, this call has not yet succeeded.

We, Palestinians, think that in order to implement the UN resolution in this area we must fight not only a military fight, but a political and a diplomatic fight and any other kind of fight.

In my opinion the job Dr Waldheim has undertaken in this area is not an easy task or an easy duty. This is because the Israelis intend to continue their occupation of the lands and not only to continue it but expand it even further. According to their slogan, they intend to spread their empire from the Nile to the Euphrates. If you look, this is to be seen on their flag; their flag has two blue lines: one symbolizes the Nile and the other the Euphrates. Their star is between the two lines, the two rivers. This gives you an idea of their dream of establishing an empire.

Perhaps Cyprus too is part of this dream. Perhaps.

Khatzopoulos: Mr 'Arafat, until some years ago Cairo was the center of the Arab progressive force. What is now happening since the recent change in As-Sadat's policy?

'Arafat: Certainly, we look upon Cairo as one of the greatest forces in the Arab world, but after As-Sadat's recent activities many things have changed.

You know that the PLO opposed this activity and we believed that nothing good would come from it. Now we see the results.

As-Sadat's activity began with a huge fanfare, and day by day it is deflating. At present this As-Sadat act has been completely neutralized under the tracks of the Israeli--American--tanks that invaded southern Lebanon. We recall the first days of As-Sadat's overture when they began talking about peace in this area of the world. What would you call this war in southern Lebanon? At least they should remember that we are a part of their world, of their area and that the events that occurred in the south mean that As-Sadat's act has failed completely.

However, we should take into consideration the fact that the Americans are exerting every effort so their game at least will not be completely destroyed.

Khatzopoulos: Recently you visited Moscow. Following the talks you had there, are you now more optimistic concerning a solution for the Palestinian problem?

'Arafat: It is true that we are on very good terms with the Soviet Union, but I do not believe that any solution looms on the horizon from that side. This is because of the conspiracies between the Israelis and the Americans who intend not only to occupy the area but also to control their monopolies, especially the oil monopoly in the area.

Khatzopoulos: Mr 'Arafat, I would like to have you tell me whether you renounce activities of men like Abu Nidal and whether you believe that extremist groups like his or like the Red Brigades can easily be infiltrated by services like the CIA?

'Arafat: Many things are happening. Thus we cannot talk about these occurrences, because we understand completely what is meant by these services [as published]. You may rest assured that all these services, whether under their own or under different names, will be trampled upon by our volunteers.

Khatzopoulos: Mr 'Arafat, I would like for you to tell me your political philosophy.

'Arafat: My philosophy?

Khatzopoulos: Yes, if you want.

'Arafat: I am a fighter for freedom. I am struggling for my people, so that the Palestinians can return to their fatherland and so that we can establish our independent state. We want to live in peace in the land of peace, in Palestine.

QADDUMI INTERVIEWED ON TRIP, MIDEAST ISSUES

JN091920Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to the Arab World 1720 GMT 9 May 78 JN

[Interview granted by Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department, to the VOP radio correspondent--live or recorded]

[Excerpts] Brother Abu al-Lutf has returned from a long trip during which he visited several friendly countries and headed the Palestinian delegation to the conference of Islamic foreign ministers.

[Question] We begin asking Brother Abu al-Lutf a question about his long trip, particularly the conference of Islamic foreign ministers.

[Answer] The Islamic conference in Dakar, Senegal, was a Palestinian conference. Several resolutions were taken at the conference in support of the Palestinian cause on the political and material levels.

[Question] There were other activities during this trip, such as the visit to Yugoslavia and several other countries.

[Answer] Yes, there were indeed other visits--to France. We had an appointment with the French foreign minister to discuss relations between the PLO and France. Undoubtedly, France's stand was in support [of the Palestinians]. We also discussed the presence of French forces in southern Lebanon. We were assured that these forces are part of the UN troops and do not operate separately but within the framework of the UN Security Council resolution in their mission and (?deployment).

There was also a visit to Belgrade. Of course, we try from time to time to hold consultations with our Yugoslav comrades on various issues and developments, particularly as the nonalined conference will be held soon. [Words indistinct] it was to have been held in Afghanistan. We needed to exchange views on all the issues to be raised at this conference and coordinate on these issues. This was accomplished. We exchanged views on recent developments in the Middle East and other parts of the world. In fact, it was a successful visit.

[Question] There is almost unanimity that As-Sadat's initiative is facing final failure. This has prompted some Arabs to move to save what is described as Arab solidarity. What is your opinion of the moves aimed at establishing Arab solidarity? What is the PLO's stand regarding Arab solidarity in light of the current political situation?

[Answer] It is known that this initiative has reached its end. World public opinion, including Arab public opinion, is now convinced that the initiative has failed due to Israeli intransigence. This had encouraged Begin to demand more concessions from the Arabs. On this basis, we can say that the initiative has harmed the Arab cause, particularly the Palestinian issue. This initiative and its results should be abandoned if Arab solidarity is to be restored. Arab solidarity should focus on an objective--the objective of liberation.

[Question] It has been noted that U.S. officials have recently escalated the tone of their statements against the PLO. This naturally came during Begin's visit to the United States and at a time when the United States is supporting so-called self-rule on the West Bank. What is the significance of this U.S. escalation at this particular time?

[Answer] The U.S. stand is indeed hostile to the Palestinian cause and the national rights of the Palestinian people. Although sometimes the United States appears to have retracted its antagonistic attitude to the aspirations of the Palestinian people somewhat, it then proves that it is against these national aspirations of the Palestinian people. Carter has failed and has shown his inability to find a just solution to the Middle East crisis. He has caused all these efforts to fail. He wants Israel to be the master of the situation in the Middle East area. In one way or another, he coordinates with Begin. Anybody who says that there is a difference between Israel and the United States is far from the truth. The United States considers Israel as a basic tool in the service of its policy and interests, and for the continuation of its investments and monopolies in the Arab area.

Whenever the United States senses that the Arabs are not serious in confronting it and liquidating its interests in the area, it becomes more arrogant and vain and increases its support for Israel and its aggressive and expansionist policy. The United States should be met with Arab hardness and confrontation. The United States will not abandon its present policy unless it discovers that the Arabs are indeed united in one rank on all political and economic levels and are also united in threatening U.S. interests and denouncing its policy.

This is a primary (?factor). In this respect, we should not forget that we should strengthen and consolidate our friendship with the socialist bloc, the nonaligned countries and the Islamic states so that they will support us in this regard and be a force of pressure and have a political stand in support of the Palestinian cause in particular and the Arab issue in general. Israel's policy will inevitably lead to another war. However, Israel will not be victorious in this war.

[Question] [Words indistinct] the facts of the political situation indicate that settlement within the framework of concessions and waiting for what the United States might offer has become remote, particularly a just settlement. Therefore, is war probable?

[Answer] All these developments clearly indicate that the area is proceeding toward a new war. The party responsible for this war will be the United States, and Israel will be the immediate cause of this war.

[Question] Brother Abu al-Lutf, allow us to ask another question on the recent war in southern Lebanon. The recent war in the south was contrary to Begin's and As-Sadat's wish, or pledge, that the October war will be the last war. In your opinion, what are the political interactions created by this war in the wake of the great steadfastness of the Palestinian and Lebanese fighters in southern Lebanon?

[Answer] First, I have not heard that Begin has pledged to end wars. I think that the one who spoke about ending the state of war was President as-Sadat. Begin did not make any pledges. This is to give the devil his due. [Interviewer interrupts: I said "wish"]. Begin is known to belong to the first colonialist generation--that of Weizman, Ben Gurion and Golda Meir. This generation is still imbued with the mentality of colonialism. He will not give a single inch. He knows that he will die in a few days, weeks or years, so he does not want it to be recorded in his biography that he relinquished one single inch of greater Israel, according to his understanding and the Zionist lexicon.

For this reason, we always believed that there can never be a settlement, even a separate one. We said this defying all the interpretations of Begin's policy. Begin wants a greater Israel. This recent initiative does not give him any justification to end his war against the Arab territories in order to gain more land and colonize it. As I have said, the war in southern Lebanon is in the service of Israel's interests and to build greater Israel and exploit the waters of Al-Hasbani River. This has been planned for and did not need any justification.

Undoubtedly, he lost this war, not only militarily but also politically. He sustained heavy losses and was unable to occupy southern Lebanon in a short period of time. If the warring forces--the Israeli forces and the Palestinian and nationalist Lebanese forces--are compared, the war was a military and political defeat. The war proved to the world that Israel does not want peace. Israel wants constant war, the establishment of settlements, expansion and aggression.

On the other hand, the Palestinian revolution's military reputation improved in the world. The conflict appeared in its true perspective--a conflict between the Palestinian people and revolution against aggressive and expansionist Israel. The war clearly showed that Israel is marching toward another war and will stop at nothing. It also showed that the Palestinian revolution is growing and developing on the military and political levels. The war showed the combat ability of the Palestinian fighter and struggler and his ability to inflict heavy losses. It also showed that his training and weaponry are good and that he is capable of many achievements and of realizing his objectives.

DFLP'S HAWATIMAH PRAISES LIBYA'S STAND

LD091929Y Tripoli JANA in English 1852 GMT 9 May 78 LD

[Text] Beirut, May 9, JANA--In an interview with the JANA correspondent in Beirut, Mr Nayif Hawatimah, the secretary-general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, praised the patriotic stand taken by the Jamahiriyah towards the causes of the Arab nation, confirming that the great Al-Fatah revolution had taken the initiative of calling for the establishment of the confrontation and steadfastness front during the Tripoli summit.

He added: "We believe that both the great Al-Fatah and the Palestinian revolutions are standing together in the fights against Zionism, imperialism and Arab defeatism, in a bid to liberate all the occupied Arab territories and to recover the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. We are waging a common struggle aimed at thwarting the Zionist imperialist plans. We, together with the great Al-Fatah revolution, are proceeding along the same road with a view to mobilizing all political, financial and military potential for the achievement of our just and noble objectives."

On Lebanese-Palestinian relations, Mr Hawatimah said: "We would like to stress that the agreements concluded to regulate relations with the Lebanese authorities are of paramount importance. We will never succumb to the terms of the Zionist enemy. It has become imperative for the revolutionary forces to unify their ranks in order to thwart all capitulatory solutions. To this end the Tripoli summit was held as a preliminary step towards the formation of the longed-for strategic front."

Mr Hawatimah went on to say: "We are now passing through an even more difficult juncture when the political sphere and geographical space have narrowed under the Zionist occupation in southern Lebanon. The Zionist is aiming at forcing the Palestinian revolution and the PLO to sit at the table of the capitulatory negotiations in compliance with the plans worked out by the defeatists in concert with the Zionists."

He also confirmed that the heroic deeds chalked up by Palestinian revolutionaries during the seven day war had become their only choice if they were to thwart the conspiracy, safeguard the revolution, defend the Arab nation and to stop the day when orders come from Tel Aviv and are carried out in Arab capitals.

In conclusion, Mr Hawatimah said: "We will fight to the last drop of our blood and to the last bullet for every inch of our land in order to inflict defeat on the front of [passage indistinct].

BAHRAIN

LIBYAN MINISTER COMMENTS ON ARAB SUMMIT, DEVELOPMENTS IN CHAD

JN091125Y Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0840 GMT 9 May 78 JN

[Text] Manama, 9 May--Libyan Foreign Secretary Dr 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki has declared that his country will not attend any Arab summit conference unless the Egyptian president terminates his initiative and suspends his contacts with Israel so the Arab states can poll all their resources to confront the criminal enemy. He said that the initiative has split Arab ranks. Therefore, it is essential to abandon it so such a conference can restore solidarity to its previous status.

Speaking in a press statement published here today, Mr at-Turayki explained that his country does not see any justification for the resumption of relations with Egypt as long as contacts between the Egyptian and Israeli sides are still going on. Dr at-Turayki affirmed that his country would like to see the Arab ranks stronger than before and Arab unity based on the strong foundation of the liberation of Arab territory from the clutches of Zionism.

Regarding Libya's position on the incidents in the Republic of Chad, Dr at-Turayki said: Libya has worked earnestly and sincerely to solve the aggravated problem between the government and the revolutionaries. We almost succeeded when the two sides met in Libya. Dr at-Turayki added that Libya strongly condemns all foreign intervention regardless of its source. He expressed the hope that the general outlines of the agreement signed recently in Libya between the Chadian Government and the revolutionaries to restore peace would be implemented.

The Libyan foreign secretary arrived in Manama last night on a brief visit to Bahrain during which he met with Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah, foreign minister of the State of Bahrain. Afterward he left for Kabul on a visit to Afghanistan lasting several days.

KUWAIT

AMIR RECEIVES MAURITANIAN PRESIDENT; TALKS HELD

LD091316Y Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 9 May 78 LD

[Text] President Mokhtar Ould Daddah of Mauritania called on the amir at As-Sif Palace at 1000 this morning. Talks began between the Kuwaiti and Mauritanian sides; they were attended by Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Hamdi Ould Mouknass, Mauritanian foreign minister and member of the National Political Bureau. The minister for cabinet affairs stated that the amir and the Mauritanian president exchanged views on the firm relations between Kuwait and Mauritania and ways of strengthening ties between the two countries in various field. The talks also covered the current situation in the Arab world and issues of common interest. The talks were held in a friendly atmosphere of complete understanding and fraternity.

Mauritanian President Leaves

LD100918Y Riyadh SNA in Arabic 0815 GMT 10 May 78 LD

[Excerpt] Kuwait--Mauritanian President Mokhtar Ould Daddah and the delegation accompanying him left Kuwait for Amman this morning at the end of his 2-day visit to Kuwait within the framework of his current Arab tour.

AMIR RECEIVES LETTERS FROM KING HUSAYN, SULTAN QABUS

JN071427Y Damascus SANA in Arabic 1400 GMT 7 May 78 JN

[Text] Kuwait, 7 May--SANA correspondent--Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah, the amir of Kuwait, received a letter today from King Husayn. The letter was delivered by the Jordanian ambassador in Kuwait. The ambassador stated that the letter deals with the latest developments in the Arab region.

The amir of Kuwait also received a letter from Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id, sultan of Oman, pertaining to their bilateral relations, the situation in the gulf area and the Arab region in general. The letter was delivered by the Omani ambassador in Kuwait.

SAUDI ARABIA

GOVERNMENT REPORTED NEGOTIATING PURCHASE OF FRENCH WARPLANES

LD091404Y Paris AN-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AD-DAWLI in Arabic 6 May 78 p 6 LD

[By 'Abd al-Karim Abu an-Nasr]

[Text] Well-informed Arab diplomatic sources have told AN-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AD-DAWLI that negotiations between Saudi Arabia and France for the purchase of highly sophisticated planes are not connected with the 60 F-15 aircraft deal; the U.S. Congress is currently debating whether to approve the sale of these aircraft to Saudi Arabia.

The sources said that Saudi officials have decided to pursue a policy of diversifying their arms sources and not to rely on one main source of armament. They are, therefore, conducting negotiations with France, Britain and other European countries for the purchase of various types of weapons they need. The sources said that the policy of diversifying arms sources will continue whether Congress approves the aircraft deal or not.

There are two types of French warplanes in which Saudi Arabia is particularly interested: the first is the Mirage 2000 and the second the Mirage 4000.

Negotiations for the purchase of the Mirage 2000 began some time ago. France has agreed in principle to sell these planes to Saudi Arabia but nothing will be declared in this regard before the fate of the U.S. aircraft deal is known. It is understood that the power of the Mirage 2000 is equivalent to that of the U.S. F-15 and it can be armed with air-to-ground missiles, something which is not available in the aircraft which the United States proposes to sell to Saudi Arabia.

With regard to the Mirage 4000, Saudi Arabia is seriously considering contributing to the financing of the production of this plane. The Mirage 4000 has a speed of mach 2 and is superior to the U.S. F-15 plane. It can carry fuel that enables it to operate at long range.

Two weeks ago an important decision was taken, indicating Saudi Arabia's desire to strengthen military cooperation with France. Mr (Gerard Couffin) has been appointed representative of the Arab Military Industries Organization in France. The organization is headed by Saudi Defense Minister Amir Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and includes Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Qatar and the UAE. This is the first time that the Arab organization has appointed a representative in Europe.

Who is (Couffin)?

Informed French sources told AN-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AD-DAWLI that (Couffin) has close relations with Elysee Palace and works in coordination and consultation with the French Foreign Ministry. He is the director of international affairs in the Thomson-CSF group, one of the largest groups for the manufacture of arms and military equipment.

The sources said that President as-Sadat has often received (Gerard Couffin) and that the latter attended an Egyptian cabinet meeting at which discussion dealt with diversifying Egyptian sources of armament. (Couffin) supports the establishment of an Arab military industry and has played a role in the negotiations which the Thomson group conducted with Saudi Arabia and Egypt for the sale of (Shahin) and Crotale missiles.

Amir Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, who attaches particular importance to the diversification of arms, is planning to visit Paris this month. The visit was scheduled for last month but was postponed for some time in order to "facilitate" the passage of the F-15 aircraft deal in Congress.

SOMALI PRESIDENT SIAD BARRE ARRIVES ON PRIVATE VISIT

LD091144Y Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1115 GMT 9 May 78 LD

[Excerpts] Riyadh, 9 May--Somali President His Excellency Mohamed Siad Barre arrived in Riyadh at 1315 today, together with the delegation accompanying him, on a private visit to the kingdom. He was welcomed at the airport by His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, regent and crown prince; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the second deputy prime minister and commander of the national guard; His Royal Highness Prince Salman ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the governor of the Riyadh area, and the mayor of Riyadh, Shaykh 'Abdallah an-Na'im.

The Somali president is accompanied by a delegation of senior officials, including Minister for the Presidency His Excellency Omar Arteh Ghalib.

Holds Talks With Prince Fahd

LD092028Y Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1810 GMT 9 May 78 LD

[Text] Riyadh--Omar Arteh Ghalib, minister for the presidency and spokesman for Somali President Siad Barre, said that the talks held today between His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, deputy prime minister and crown prince, and his excellency the Somali president, dealt with the recent developments in the Horn of Africa region. The talks also dealt with the current Arab situation and its development. In a statement made to SNA after the meeting, he said the views of the Saudi and Somali sides during the talks were identical, as usual, and that these talks have achieved fruitful and useful results for both sides. Moreover, they were held in a friendly atmosphere full of mutual trust.

YASIR 'ARAFAT ARRIVES IN RIYADH

LD100818Y Riyadh SNA in Arabic 0736 GMT 10 May 78 LD

[Text] Riyadh--Chairman of the PLO Executive Committee Yasir 'Arafat arrived in Riyadh at 1015 today on a brief visit to the kingdom. He was welcomed on arrival at the airport by an official of the Royal Protocol Department.

UAE

COURT OFFICIAL HOLDS TALKS WITH INDONESIAN AVIATION DELEGATION

JN0815487 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1325 GMT 8 May 78 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 8 May--Shaykh Surur ibn Muhammad, chief of the UAE court, met here this morning with the Indonesian civil aviation delegation currently visiting the UAE under Marshal (Carono), civil aviation general representative.

During the meeting, a discussion was held on the possibility of starting Indonesian flights between Abu Dhabi and Djakarta. Bilateral relations in the field of civil aviation were also discussed.

The meeting was attended by 'Ali Khalfan adh-Dhahiri, chief of the UAE airports department.

PDRY

JOINT COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO VIETNAM

For the text of the joint communique issued following Prime Minister 'Ali Nasir Muhammad Hasani's visit to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, see page K 7 of the 8 May issue of the Asia & Pacific DAILY REPORT.

PRESIDENTIAL COUNCIL CHAIRMAN RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM BOUMEDIENE

JN0916157 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1555 GMT 9 May 78 JN

[Text] Aden, 9 May--Salim Rubayyi' 'Ali, chairman of the PDRY Presidential Council, has received a message from Algerian President Houari Boumediene which reportedly deals with the current Arab situation. The message was conveyed by Abdelhamid Mahdi, the Algerian president's personal envoy, when he met with Rubayyi' 'Ali here today.

OMAN LIBERATION FRONT ISSUES MILITARY COMMUNIQUE

LD0707587 Aden Voice of Oman in Arabic 1545 GMT 6 May 78 LD/EA

[Text] Brothers: Here is a military communique issued by the forces of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Oman and the Arabian Gulf.

On 22 April 1978 the enemy advanced from his post at Tarhanut Wadi (Khun), north of Mirbat in the eastern sector. At 1130 a group of our forces engaged the enemy forces in a violent and vengeful battle for 20 minutes.

After the battle the enemy brought up all his heavy, medium and light weapons and from his positions in the region began randomly shelling people and their herds. The shelling lasted for 2 hours. The enemy also called in a squadron of helicopters, backed by fighter aircraft, to bolster his crumbling forces [words indistinct] to which his forces would have been subjected.

The enemy losses were four men, including a machinegun crew, killed or wounded. The colonialist-reactionary enemy did not succeed in collecting his dead and wounded until after sunset, when a helicopter was seen landing to pick up the enemy dead and wounded from the battlefield.

No losses were incurred by our side, but some areas were set on fire and fires continued blazing throughout the night.

Our forces returned safely to base; they promised the 19 June revolution, its martyrs and the masses that they would continue the struggle until the homeland is liberated and united.

Signed: the forces of the People's Liberation Army, Dhofar Region

YAR

ALGERIAN ENVOY DELIVERS MESSAGE, LEAVES SAN'A'

JN081417Y San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 8 May 78 JN

[Text] Abdelhamid Mahdi, envoy of Algerian President Houari Boumediene, left San'a' this morning at the conclusion of a brief visit to the YAR. During the visit, he delivered a message from President Houari Boumediene to President Ahmad Husayn al-Ghashmi.

FRG PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION LEAVES SAN'A' FOLLOWING VISIT

JN081423Y San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 8 May 78 JN

[Text] The FRG parliamentary delegation left San'a' this morning for home at the end of a 4-day official visit to the YAR, during which the delegation members met with President al-Ghashmi, the prime minister, several officials and members of the People's Constituent Assembly. The delegation was seen off by several members of the People's Constituent Assembly and the FRG ambassador in San'a'.

In a statement to SABA' news agency prior to his departure with the accompanying delegation, the head of the FRG parliamentary delegation said that he was very satisified with the talks he held with the concerned officials. He added that the aim of his delegation's visit was not only to hold talks on ways of promoting development and on economic aid offered to the YAR by the FRG, but also to meet the members of the People's Constituent Assembly. He added that relations between the FRG and YAR are very good and stressed his country's desire to promote them further.

BRIEFS

SAUDI AGRICULTURAL IMPORTS--Riyadh, 9 May--Saudi agricultural imports in the first quarter of this year from various countries of the world exceeded 1.277 billion tons. This was stated in a report prepared by Dr Mansur Aba Husayn, undersecretary for research in the Ministry of Agriculture and Water, and submitted to Dr 'Abd ar-Rahman al ash-Shaykh, minister of agriculture and water. [Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1015 GMT 9 May 78 LD]

SAUDI-FRG CONTRACT SIGNED--Riyadh, 9 May--Prince 'Abdullah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister and commander of the national guard, today signed a contract with the German firm Ebel Bau and Company, Ltd. for the construction of the national guard military college. The project will cost 460 million riyals and will be completed within 30 months from the signing of the contract. [Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1310 GMT 9 May 78 LD]

AS-SADAT, SALIM ADDRESS FIRST CABINET SESSION

NC091655Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 9 May 78 NC

[Text] The new cabinet held its first meeting this morning under President Anwar as-Sadat after taking the constitutional oath.

Culture and Information Minister 'Abd al-Mun'im as-Sawi stated after the meeting that President as-Sadat opened his speech by thanking the outgoing ministers for their efforts. He then spoke about the nature of the present stage. He said it is rare for a government in any country to face what the Egyptian Government is facing in the present circumstances. It is facing the issue of liberation and the responsibility of reconstruction simultaneously. The services field requires constant efforts to overcome legacies of the past. All of this must not discourage the government's hopes of overcoming and tackling all of these problems.

We will not hesitate to take democracy as a means for our national action. Public freedom, press freedom and freedom of democratic action are guaranteed. We adhere to democracy regardless of the failures resulting from the experience. Despite our problems and the difficult circumstances surrounding us, we will face these difficult circumstances with democracy and confront outbidding with sound democratic practice.

The president called on the ministers to present the people with all the facts through the People's Assembly and the information media. The people will weigh matters in a sound manner. It is no disgrace to tell the people that we cannot accomplish a particular thing or a plan at a specific time, provided we explain the whole situation to the people. We should tell the people that we will exert all our efforts when the particular situation we are explaining ends. In this way we will put an end to rumors or any exploitation of the situation to which outbidders may resort.

The president then spoke about the aim of this phase, which is a phase of development of the Egyptian man so that his dignity and rights may be preserved. The cabinet should work for the prosperity and security of the Egyptian man and motivate him to share in shouldering the responsibility. The president called on the ministers to go out into the streets, to avoid falling into routine and to acquaint themselves with the problems at the source. The president cited as an example the Suez Canal, which was closed for 8 years until a plan for its development was drawn up. He said one-third of the required development work has already been completed. He cited as further examples the aluminum complex, the sugar plant and the iron and steel plants.

Addressing the ministers, the president said: You will find other achievements through your contacts with the people and your work to solve the people's problems. He called on them to strengthen their contacts with the members of the People's Assembly in order to familiarize themselves with the needs of the masses.

The president also called for providing the basic commodities and for insuring that they are available all the time. He said that any reasons leading to delays in supplying such commodities should be explained to the people.

The president stressed his faith in the republic's institutions and the need to move from revolutionary legitimacy to constitutional legitimacy, because the Egyptian people will not accept going back to the situation existing before the 23 July revolution. The 23 July revolution and the 15 May revolution have become a fact of our contemporary life. The principles of these revolutions are the basis of sound democratic practice. He pointed out that the mistakes of the 23 July revolution were corrected by the 15 May revolution. The corrective revolution was able to achieve freedom for the Egytpian people for the first time in their modern and ancient history. There are no longer kings who can dissolve parliament within 7 days of its convocation. There are no more detention camps. The 1971 constitution established the rights of the people in full following a full public referendum extending from Aswan to Alexandria. This constitution, on the basis of which we exercise political action, is not a gift from anyone. It does not allow for the establishment of centers of power; nor does it give the president of the republic the right to dissolve the People's Assembly except after a public referendum. All freedoms are guaranteed in this constitution, thank God.

Continuing to talk about democracy, the president said that it does not mean anarchy or anybody having the right to say and do anything he wants. Democracy means having discipline and exchanging views in a respectable manner. It is not acceptable that the Egyptian people should bear the brunt of any deviation in the application of socialism. The weapons of casting doubt and mental terrorism are rejected. Likewise, playing a game of outbidding with the masses' difficulties and sufferings is a method that is no longer accepted by political or moral logic. Imported systems have no place in our society. The communists will have no place in any leadership or in any other place that influences the shaping of public opinion.

Speaking about ministerial solidarity in the cabinet, the president called on the ministers to establish this solidarity as a tradition on the basis of Egyptian sincerity and the values of the Egyptian land and the national soil. He also called on the ministers to increase their solidarity and, on the authority of the executive, to carry out its work in as complete manner as required.

He said that the people look to the government for a good example in freedom, discipline and good performance. He also noted the need to work for consolidating the society of institutions. He called upon the judicial authority to expedite the investigation into the cases of deviation so that the masses may rest assured that justice is the basis of dealings among the citizens and that nobody, whatever his position, rises above the law and that the state is eager to safeguard the supremacy of the law.

He then spoke about the green revolution and the need to secure the future and to give hope to future generations, particularly in the wake of the population explosion and the difficulty involved in achieving food security in the narrow valley. The president concluded his address by wishing the ministers success in the responsibilities which have been assigned to them and which aim at serving the people and the Egyptians.

Prime Minister Mamduh Salim then spoke. He thanked the president on behalf of his ministerial colleagues, who are members of the Arab Socialist Party of Egypt. He also thanked the ministers who are leaving the cabinet for their efforts and contribution to shouldering the responsibilities.

The prime minister said that the difficulties of the current phase through which the country is now passing will not prevent the cabinet from continuing to confront these difficulties under the guidance of the president. Over the past 2 years, the cabinet has achieved sufficient development and internal reform and has solved many problems with the means available. The fact that it has done this augurs well for the solution of the remaining difficulties confronting the national task.

He said: Mr President, you have declared two of the greatest liberation revolutions in the world. Thanks to you, the October war decision was made. Your historic initiative establishing Arab rights in the Middle East left a distinguished mark on political work throughout the world. On Labor Day, you defined the negative aspects that accumulated during the past phase. We emphasize to your excellency that all the people are with you and that the government will continue with its work to overcome all these negative aspects through the executive authority and by democratic methods and under the canopy of the supremacy of the law.

We also affirm to the masses of the Egyptian people that we are with you and that we will very resolutely confront anyone who tries to turn backward. We will also confront imported principles and the attempts to exploit the masses' sufferings. We will do this through the Egyptian people shouldering their responsibility to liberate their territory and the territory of the Arabs.

The prime minister also asserted that the cabinet has always been eager to maintain ministerial solidarity. He said: We work for the sake of the Egyptian people and for the cause of liberation. We will move ahead with the green revolution and will complete the administrative revolution.

The prime minister concluded his statement by saying: We will always heed the directives of the president. He wished the president success in serving his people and his Arab nation and in achieving international security through a just and permanent peace.

GHALI TO VISIT WORLD CAPITALS ON PEACE MOVES

NC100727Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 0657 GMT 10 May 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 10 May--AL-AHRAM reports today that Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Butrus Ghali will embark on a tour in the next few days during which he will visit a number of world capitals. The tour will be part of the Egyptian political moves to bring peace to the Middle East.

AL-AHRAM adds that Egyptian ambassadors in London and to the Scandinavian countries, which are currently being visited by Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan, were informed of the views on the peace efforts. Egypt has also passed on these same views to the ambassadors of these countries.

GUINEAN PRESIDENT TO VISIT IN SECOND HALF OF MAY

NC100726Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 0659 GMT 10 May 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 10 May--AL-AKHBAR says today that Guinean President Sekou Toure will pay an official visit to Egypt in the second half of May. The Guinean president will hold talks with President as-Sadat during the visit.

AS-SADAT TO ADDRESS MESSAGE TO PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY 14 MAY

NC092308Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 2248 GMT 9 May 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 9 May--President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat will address a message to the People's Assembly on Sunday on the occasion of the fifth anniversary of the 15 May corrective revolution. The message will be delivered by Assembly Speaker Sayyid Mari'i.

The People's Assembly has invited Vice President Husni Mubarak, Prime Minister Mamduh Salim, and the ministers to the special session which will be held on this occasion.

The representatives of the parliamentary branches will comment on the president's message and a number of assembly members will speak on the occasion.

AS-SADAT URGES FULL UTILIZATION OF U.S. AID

NC091905Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1730 GMT 9 May 78 NC

[Text] Alexandria, 9 May--President Anwar as-Sadat today received Dr Ahmad Muhammad 'Iffat, chairman of the U.S.-Egyptian works committee. The meeting was attended by Vice President Husni Mubarak.

Engineer 'Iffat said after the meeting that President as-Sadat instructed him to increase efforts to utilize all U.S. aid to Egypt.

Engineer 'Iffat was in the United States last month to discuss U.S. aid to Egypt.

AL-AHRAR: PRIME MINISTER SNUBS COPTIC CHURCH

LD051044Y Cairo AL-AHRAR in Arabic 1 May 78 p 1 LD

[Text] Mamduh Salim, prime minister and chairman of the Arab Socialist Party of Egypt, did not send an envoy to congratulate the pope of the Coptic Church on the occasion of Easter on Saturday. This is the first time Mamduh Salim has failed to congratulate the pope and to attend Easter mass.

One of the national newspapers had reported that 'Abd al-Masih Yusuf, lawyer of Pope Shinudah III, has joined the Wafd Party and is encouraging the Copts to join the new party.

However, Mamduh Salim sent lawyer Nazmi Butrus, member of the Political Bureau of the Arab Socialist Party of Egypt, to inquire about the pope's health and to verify whether the report was true. The pope told Nazmi Butrus that the Copts are free to join any party that agrees with their political beliefs but that the church is national and not partisan.

Al-AHRAR has learned that Abbot Samuel, in charge of church services, is expected to resign from the Political Bureau of the Arab Socialist Party of Egypt in accordance with the people's view that the church is national and not partisan.

ATH-THAWRAH CARRIES SECOND PART OF SADDAM HUSAYN INTERVIEW

JN0916462Y Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 9 May 78 JN

[Second part of interview granted by Revolution Command Council Vice Chairman Saddam Husayn to the newspaper ATH-THAWRAH, published 9 May]

[Excerpts] In building socialism, we find that we are facing two different issues at once. On the one hand, it is easy to build socialism because of the ready response of the masses and their interaction with socialist life. We have the historical background of revolutionary change in Arab society, and we are representing the interests and aspirations of the masses. On the other hand, it is difficult to build socialism because it is a new idea which requires prolonged and precise efforts from the theoretical and practical viewpoints in order to resolve the issues and draw up plans. Building socialism also meets with difficulties on the international level.

Applying ideas from other systems will rob those who are copying the originality and the bases for development and growth. The adoption brings in formulas and plans of action alien to internal national development.

In building socialism we face many complicated problems. It requires continued and active imagination to solve these problems. We must have the conviction to reject rigid solutions and remedies in dealing with these difficulties. We must work to harness private property and private business. We must eliminate conflict between private activities and the private property allowed in the society on the one hand, and the socialist sector and the socialist march on the other. We must take into account not only material needs, but also human needs, in socialist construction. This is because socialism, in the opinion of our party, is an integrated philosophy of life in all its elements and ramifications. Socialism deals not only with economic issues but also with human issues. In such a way we will not lose the human element which is the ultimate aim of socialist application.

We are not the only party which faces difficulties in applying socialism. Our difficulties are much less than those experienced by others which have preceded us. The complete and swift control of all means of production by some socialism experiments and their absolute ban on private property and private activity--without taking into account the objective and scientific factors of the development of life, social factors, cultural and human factors and the real ability of the people to deal with socialist construction and the conditions for its development--has involved these experiments in costly difficulties from the development viewpoint and in terms of human loss. For instance, the cost of such a practice during the Stalin era reached about 13 million human beings and one third of the livestock in the Soviet Union. It also had other material and moral effects. This throws some light on the Soviet Union's revision of its views concerning the exploitation of individual property.

We consider the state and its departments in the service of socialism. The capitulationists, theoretically, consider the state and its departments neutral in the capitalist system. From the practical viewpoint, the capitalists have placed the state and its organs in the service of private activity. Therefore, the state and its organs are placed in the service of the exploiting class under the capitalist system and in the service of the majority of the people in the socialist system. The interests of the exploiting few are opposed to the majority in the first phases of the socialist revolution. Then the state is for all the people when this opposition disappears and socialist construction bears fruit.

SADDAM HUSAYN SPEAKS TO ECONOMIC CONFERENCE DELEGATES

JN0920252 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1920 GMT 9 May 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 9 May--Revolution Command Council [RCC] Vice Chairman Saddam Husayn today met with the delegations participating in the pan-Arab strategic conference for joint economic Arab action.

During the meeting Mr Saddam Husayn told the delegates that coordination among the Arab countries on any level is better than the state of estrangement and disintegration, provided this coordination is not an alternative to the basic aim but a means to reach that aim. Mr Saddam Husayn referred to the imperialist attempts to use the Arab points of strength to weaken [words indistinct].

Mr Saddam Husayn answered the questions posed by the delegates on political, social and economic issues. The meeting was attended by RCC member and Planning Minister 'Adnan Husayn, RCC member and Trade Minister Hasan 'Ali, [words indistinct] and a number of Iraqi economists.

PLANNING MINISTER MEETS WITH CUBAN OFFICIAL

JN0916202 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 9 May 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad--'Adnan Husayn, RCC member and planning minister, met in Baghdad today with Ernesto Melendez, vice chairman of the Cuban State Committee for Economic Cooperation with Foreign Countries, and the delegation accompanying him. During the meeting the two sides reviewed bilateral relations in the economic and industrial fields and means of strengthening them.

MAURITANIAN INDUSTRY, FISHING MINISTER CONCLUDES VISIT

JN0914222 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1242 GMT 9 May 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 9 May--Abdallah Ould Ismael, Mauritanian minister of industry, fishing and merchant marine, left Baghdad today after a 4-day visit to Iraq. In a statement, Mr Ismael said that his meetings with Iraqi officials had been positive and fruitful and had dealt with the promotion of cooperation between the two countries and peoples in the fields of industry and fishing.

The Mauritanian minister was seen off at the airport by Mr Muhammad 'Ayesh, RCC member and minister of industry and minerals.

ZANU OFFICIAL LEAVES AFTER 5-DAY VISIT

JN0914202 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1356 GMT 9 May 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 9 May--Edgar Tekere, secretary general of the Zimbabwe African National Union, ZANU, left Baghdad today after a 5-day visit to Iraq.

In a statement to INA, the ZANU official said that this delegation's talks with officials in the Ba'th Party National Command were designed to strengthen and promote the ties between the movement and the Ba'th Party. He said that he informed the party officials of the latest developments of the African liberation movement in general and the struggle of the people of Zimbabwe in particular.

Mr Tekere stressed the need to intensify the struggle waged by the Arab and African peoples against their common enemies, imperialism and the racist regimes.

VICE PRESIDENT MEETS WITH MALTESE PRIME MINISTER

JN0819527 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1915 GMT 8 May 78 JN

[Text] Valetta, 8 May--Iraqi Vice President Taha Muhyi ad-Din Ma'ruf met here today with Maltese Prime Minister Dominic Mintoff. The meeting was attended on the Iraqi side by Foreign Minister Sa'dun Hammadi and the Iraqi nonresident ambassador in Malta. For the Maltese side the meeting was attended by Deputy Prime Minister Joseph Cassar, Development Minister Wistin Abela and Justice Minister (Murjeh). [as received].

An INA correspondent said that the two sides discussed the current Arab situation, the situation in the Mediterranean and means of developing bilateral cooperation in light of the economic and trade agreement between the two countries.

IRAQI CUSTOMS DIRECTOR GENERAL LEAVES FOR WARSAW

JN0816157 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1555 GMT 8 May 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 8 May--Customs Director General Mahmud Muhammad al-Hilu left for Warsaw today leading a delegation on a visit of several days to Poland. Al-Hilu said that during the visit the delegation will acquaint itself with the methods of work at the customs departments in Poland. The delegation will also discuss means to develop cooperation between the two countries in matters concerning customs.

BRIEFS

HUNGARIAN SPORTS OFFICIAL--Baghdad, 6 May--(Nadir Gyorgy), secretary general of the Hungarian Physical Training and Sports Council in the Hungarian Council of Ministers, arrived in Baghdad today on a 1-week visit to Iraq at the invitation of the Youth Ministry. He will discuss with the officials in the Youth Ministry the strengthening of the ties of youths and sports between the two friendly countries. [Baghdad INA in Arabic 1920 GMT 6 May 78 JN]

KING HUSAYN PRESIDES OVER CABINET SESSION

JN0909402 Amman JNA in Arabic 0900 GMT 9 May 78 JN

[Excerpts] Amman--His Majesty King Husayn presided over a cabinet meeting at the Prime Ministry yesterday afternoon to discuss the course of work and the level of public services dispensed to the citizens. The discussions revolved around the various services dispensed in the kingdom and his majesty's tour of the southern region where he inspected the conditions of the citizens.

His majesty spoke to the cabinet about the progress and level of public services in the various areas he visited, his evaluation of these services and ways to better implement them by the competent departments.

His majesty stressed the need to remedy shortcomings in various vital spheres such as water, health, agricultural services, schools, mosques and housing in remote areas. His majesty emphasized that the best way for officials to follow up the implementation of these services is for them to make field visits, conduct direct contacts with the citizens to seek out their problems and deal with them with amity and an open mind.

His majesty added that the government's occupation with foreign and international political issues must not prevent it from looking into the needs and demands of the citizens. His majesty directed the cabinet to overcome routine and to increase cooperation among the various appropriate departments to enable them to carry out their responsibilities more efficiently and rapidly.

The cabinet meeting was attended by His Excellency Sharif 'Abd al-Hamid Sharaf, chief of the royal court.

CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL HEARS FOREIGN POLICY STATEMENT

JN0815462 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 8 May 78 JN

[Text] The National Consultative Council [NCC] held a meeting in camera this morning headed by NCC Speaker Ahmad al-Lawzi to hear the government statement on its foreign policy on the Arab and international levels.

Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Mudar Badran presented a comprehensive 2-hour political statement in which he reviewed the principles and objectives of the recent Jordanian moves, and the results of the contacts held with the Arab states, as well as the government's concepts of its moves in the coming stage in light of Arab and international changes. After reading the statement, the prime minister answered questions by the NCC members.

The NCC decided to hold a special session in camera on Monday to discuss the government statement. The session was attended by the ministers.

AD-DUSTUR COMMENTS ON BEGIN'S STATEMENTS IN WASHINGTON

JN0807232 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 8 May 78 JN

[From the press review]

[Text] Writing under the headline "The Facts Have Not Changed," the newspaper AD-DUSTUR says that nothing has changed and nothing will ever change in the Israeli position. Begin's attack on Carter's projects, which, as the Americans point out, form part of their foreign policy, means that no real U.S. pressure has been applied to Israel but that the pressure is an Israeli one on the U.S. administration.

The paper adds that President Carter had intended the Middle East arms deal to be a well-studied fight against Israeli intransigence, but this fight has become one between the President and Congress; enabling Begin to defy and state explicitly his opposition to the U.S. President's projects, as he did yesterday evening in Washington, at a time when discussions are being conducted in the Congress, by the press and by U.S. public opinion.

AD-DUSTUR says that Israel has not and will never change unless faced with a force from within the area of the struggle--that is an Arab force which will shrink Israel back to its real size and face the United States with the difficult choice between its interest in this vast, rich and strategically influential area and its shady link with the Zionist entity.

MAURITANIAN PRESIDENT ARRIVES IN AMMAN ON 3-DAY VISIT

JN1011355Y Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 10 May 78 JN

[Excerpts] Mauritanian President Moktar Ould Daddah arrived in Amman today on a 3-day visit to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan to hold talks with His Majesty King Husayn on the Arab situation, bilateral relations and various aspects of mutual cooperation between the two fraternal countries.

His Majesty King Husayn headed those who met the Mauritanian president upon his arrival at Amman airport. The visiting president was also met by His Highness Prince Muhammad; Prime Minister Mudar Badran, the chief of the Royal Hashemite Court; the commander in chief of the Jordanian armed forces; the court minister; and the chief chamberlain.

President Ould Daddah is accompanied by a delegation of senior government officials.

MINISTER DISCUSSES COOPERATION WITH HUNGARIAN ENVOY

JN0914447Y Amman JNA in Arabic 1430 GMT 9 May 78 JN

[Text] Amman, 9 May--Dr 'Abd as-Salam al-Majali, minister of education, and the Hungarian ambassador to Jordan, who resides in Damascus, met today and discussed means to strengthen cultural cooperation between Jordan and Hungary, particularly in the field of education. The ambassador expressed his country's desire to prepare a cultural program of action based on the cultural agreement between the two countries and to define specific fields of cooperation.

The minister outlined the system of education in Jordan, the progress both in quality and quantity in student training and educational renovations in Jordan. They also discussed higher education and certain aspects unique to the University of Jordan in view of its status as a modern university. The minister expressed his ministry's desire to send a number of graduates of Jordanian industrial training schools to continue their studies in Hungary to prepare them for roles as vocational instructors.

Transport Minister Engineer 'Ali as-Suhaymat also met with the Hungarian ambassador and discussed means to strengthen cooperation in the fields of air and overland transport between Jordan and Hungary.

VOICE OF LEBANON REPORTS PALESTINIAN-NORWEGIAN CLASH

NC091945Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 1915 GMT 9 May 78 NC

[Text] According to people coming from Hasbayya area today, violent clashes have been going on since this morning between the Norwegian forces and Palestinian gunmen. One Palestinian has been killed and two others wounded. One Norwegian soldier has been slightly wounded.

The clashes later expanded to cover the entire area under the control of the Norwegian forces. They were still going on this evening.

The clash erupted when Palestinian gunmen tried to enter the area by force of arms and were repulsed by the Norwegian forces. A battle ensued in which various types of heavy weapons were used.

Further Details

NC100638Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 0515 GMT 10 May 78 NC

[Text] Sources of the Norwegian force in the south have said that the clash with Palestinian and communist groups at the Kawkabah crossroads in the south took place because fire was opened at the Norwegian barricade when the Norwegians manning the barricade prevented a number of armed men from entering the area.

The Norwegian forces returned the fire. A Palestinian was killed and three others were wounded. A Norwegian soldier was wounded.

Meanwhile, sources of the French force in the town of Tyre have denied that they have made any changes in their positions. It appears that the French are in control of observation posts south of Tyre while the Senegalese are in control of observation posts east of the town.

With respect to changes in positions, UNIFIL commander General Erskine has said that administration and communications officials who were in the Az-Zahrani area have been moved to An-Naqurah, where a UN command headquarters has been set up. UN circles have said that the transfer of the center will greatly help to discourage acts of kidnapings to which civilian officials, who have been travelling to Az-Zahrani and other townships, have been liable.

PLO LEADER 'ARAFAT INSPECTS POSITIONS IN SOUTH

JN091742Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to the Arab World 1700 GMT 9 May 78 JN

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, inspected several positions of the joint forces in southern Lebanon at noon today. Brother Abu 'Ammar was accompanied on this inspection tour by Brother Staff Brig Gen Abu al-Walid, chief of the central operations room of the joint forces.

Brother Abu 'Ammar met with the Palestinian fighters and the military cadres of the revolution in the area.

PRESIDENT AL-ASAD ADDRESSES TEACHERS CONGRESS

JN091200Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0950 GMT 9 May 78 JN

[Speech by President Hafiz al-Asad opening Third General Congress of the Syrian Teachers Federation held at the headquarters of the Syrian General Federation of Labor Unions in Damascus 9 May 1978--live]

[Text] Brother members of the congress, dear guests, this meeting with the teachers in our country gives me great pleasure as they begin their third general congress. I am pleased to welcome the brothers and friends who are guests of the congress, wishing them a happy stay in our country and hoping that their attendance will provide an opportunity for the exchange of thoughts and perceptions so as to enrich both our experience and that of their countries for the benefit of coming generations of our peoples.

I am tied by a special feeling to your congress, stemming from our habitual feeling of esteem for teachers and the special status teachers have in the hearts of the sons of our people. Teachers have maintained this esteem through the various ages in our country and in various countries of the world. The word teacher has always indicated esteem, the reason being that the people view teachers as a source of knowledge.

I know from experience that the status of teachers in Syria has always been lofty and that its citizens' respect for them has always been great. Many people in cities and villages turned to and still turn to teachers not only to consult them in educational matters but to benefit from their opinions in solving problems.

There are reasons for this: First, that teachers are torches in our country from whom many generations have gained the light of knowledge. Our people found in teachers both pioneers in the field of education and vangurds in patriotic struggle. Teachers have played a pioneering role in this struggle. They made their schools centers for radiating nationalism and pan-Arabism. They are to be credited for implanting love of the homeland, maintaining our heritage and language and ingraining patriotic and pan-Arab values in the hearts of the children. Teachers did not confine their struggle to schools, but participated with the population in the arenas of conflict, fighting colonialism and the forces of suppression and monopoly. Many teachers have fallen martyrs in the cause of freedom for our citizens and homeland.

I also have ties to your congress because of the pioneering experience of the teachers in the field of trade union action and the development and integration of this experience. Through your trade union struggle, you have taken an important stride in creating a unified trade union in Syria, a union which under the 8 March Revolution assumed its proper status among the popular organizations nurtured by the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party [applause] and backed by the revolution. This trade union is successfully playing its role at the level of political and trade union struggle. It is offering important services to its members and is effectively participating in planning and carrying out educational policy in Syria.

I believe that your trade union experience has special traits which result from the characteristics of education. Teachers constitute a toiling sector characterized by distinguished production. Their production has many qualities. They are educators because the education of generals falls on them. They are creators and their career is to cherish talents and competence and give freedom to capabilities.

They instill knowledge and morals in the hearts of their pupils. They make their pupils into fruitful trees. Thus they are builders, builders who form the Arab man qualified to be a good, productive citizen. From the hands of teachers, batches of pupils are graduated, a matter which fills them with happiness as they see their sons proceed to various walks of life provided with qualities which will insure them success in their personal and public life.

Does not all of this uplift the profession of education to the status of a religious mission? Education is a mission rather than a profession. A successful teacher is one who follows this task to perform a mission. This is the secret behind the sublimity of this profession and the great esteem which teachers enjoy. [applause]

Brother members of the congress, the aim represented by the slogan of the congress is sublime and great and worthy of all appreciation. The slogan of strengthening the political struggle and promoting the national responsibilities of teachers and the development of education for liberation and construction are indications of the deep feeling of responsibility.

Thus this should be your guide in your discussions of the affairs of your trade union and the issues of education in Syria, based on the reports of the trade union council submitted to you. Political struggle and facing up to national responsibility by the teachers is in harmony with the teachers' genuinely patriotic feelings in Syria. This also completes their long struggling march. Promotion of education for the purpose of liberation and construction is also in harmony with the nature of the state through which the struggle of our people in Syria and that of our Arab nation is passing.

I have no doubt that the recommendations and resolutions of the congress will fulfill the aims of the congress slogan. We in Syria are facing two basic challenges, the first of which is the challenge of the Zionist invasion backed by imperialism. This is the main challenge facing us. The second challenge is that of development. This urges us to exert efforts and to work perseveringly to catch up with the times. As a result of this, we face a unique situation with regard to the importance of the parallels between our struggle to repulse the Zionist invasion, to liberate the occupied Arab land and to restore the Palestinian people's right and our struggle to achieve multifaceted development. From this the teachers' role emerges clearly, for the man you shape is the decisive element in the confrontation of both challenges. Undoubtedly your discussions will shed more light on the importance of this role and on the methods and means of insuring better performance.

As we meet with the teachers who are guiding our generation and building our men, I think it is important to put forth certain thoughts as bold headlines which I believe constitute the most important foundations for our present and future. I have no doubt that these thoughts will be of great interest to the teachers because they are basic necessities for building the strong and lofty edifice we want for us and for our coming generations.

First, you must emphasize and make clear to our students the fact of our national and pan-Arab affiliation and its importance. [applause] Perhaps this is taken for granted, but we are living in an age in which confusion, falsification and fabrication have dominated to the point that it is urgently necessary for us to stress even axioms. [applause] You must emphasize and make clear to our students the fact of our national and pan-Arab affiliation and the importance of our knowledge of and deep faith in this Arab affiliation. You must make clear the pan-Arab thinking and thrust as a fact which must be dealt with in the world arena regardless of the political divisions of the Arab world.

There are enough factual examples to constitute definite proof of the extension and reality of pan-Arab affiliation. We must work to achieve our pan-Arab identity by continued struggle to achieve unity. Unless unity is achieved, we will remain remote from realizing pan-Arab identity. He who does not exercise pan-Arab identity will not completely exercise his existence. From this emerges the importance of the struggle to cover the distance between what we are exercising and what we must exercise. This distance separates the fact that we are living in partitioned states and the fact of unity that we must live through.

Second, it is your duty to strengthen the patriotic spirit. When this is done as it should be, many of the big difficulties we suffer from will vanish. These difficulties hinder our path to construction and progress and consume much of our energy which, if it had been saved, would have insured great momentum to building the land, man and life. Patriotism means that we love our homeland and are loyal to it. Patriotism means safeguarding the homeland without hesitating or faltering. Patriotism means to reject any offense to the homeland and to face with determination and effectiveness any challenge facing the homeland. Patriotism means to be zealous about all that in our homeland we have: the land and the man; the tree and water; every house and school; every road or street in every village and city; every flower and rose on a road or in a garden. We must be zealous to safeguard, maintain and improve everything on the surface of this homeland and under its sky. [applause]

Patriotism means that we make use of time in a precise and regulated way. Wasting time is a great error and similar to wasting anything of value. Time benefits you if you make use of it and harms you if you waste it. Patriotism means to continue to build without stopping, to build the land and the man and to improve our life. Our continued daily additions will make everything in this homeland more beautiful, splendid, correct and useful. Patriotism means our readiness to sacrifice, with its deepest significance very high and continued.

Let us emphasize and work to entrench and enhance patriotism, because in this way we will entrench its values and move effectively toward happiness and a better life.

Third, as long as we have a sure confidence that the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and its principles manifest the nation's aspirations and hopes, then the teachers have the primary responsibility for working to explain and strengthen this party in terms of its ideology and its instruments. The teachers have the primary responsibility to attract the students to the party, to explain the party's ideology, programs, resolutions and positions.

In the minds and consciences of each one of us there is a genuine spontaneous conviction that there can be no secure future except under the aegis of unity. As for our future aspirations and hopes, there can be absolutely nothing to fill the vacuum or fill the alarming shortcomings caused by the lack of Arab unity. Arab unity is an emotional and rational issue; as much as it represented the facts of the past, it now represents the necessity of the future. Freedom is the heart and essence of life. If the heart stops beating, life will be lost. Therefore, this heart must be well taken care of so that it remains active and strong, giving warmth and motion to the lives of people one generation after another. The achievements of this generation--which are in harmony with the activity and effectiveness of this heart, namely the freedom which has been given--constitute a strong and integrated basis for a free and enriched life in which one becomes stronger and more capable of giving more and being more innovative and living like a human being and achieving happiness and security.

The socialist option defined by our party is the sure road toward a society in which we can eliminate the symptoms of exploitation and its factors. Unless we continue building our socialist system and consolidating it, we will continue to suffer from various forms of injustice in our daily affairs, and this would reduce the capacity to give, as well as the opportunities for innovation and creativity.

The more we strengthen our party through its masses the more we are capable of achieving domestic and pan-Arab progress. The more we strengthen our party through its masses--and the students are the broadest sector of these masses--the more we rid ourselves of parasitic obstacles and the quicker we move successfully in the multifaceted process of domestic national construction.

Brother and son teachers in Syria, I would like to emphasize the importance of your efforts in building the party because this party, in its goals and its healthy and developing structure, is the guarantee of a greater future for every citizen in this country and is the decisive weapon in our domestic and national struggle. In its organization, the party is the instrument of the masses in explaining their goals and in crystalizing these goals and programming their efforts, work, the leadership of their struggle and their overall domestic and pan-Arab struggle practices. The party enables the masses to achieve the best results in all these fields.

Brother teachers, not all of you are members of the party, but all of you are Ba'thists. [applause] Not all teachers are members of the Party, but all of them are Ba'thists. Your responsibility toward the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party is an enormous one because it is a responsibility involving the people and the future of the homeland and the nation, whether they are members of the party or not. All of you have the responsibility to build your party and to consolidate this structure.

Fourth, we must implant in our students the spirit of the love of organization of work and adherence to discipline in every matter. We must exercise discipline in our actions and exercise discipline in our behavior and our hobbies. Organized work is the more productive work. Success is the ally of discipline in action. There can be no success with chaos and there can be no progress with chaos. There can be no prosperity or freedom with chaos.

As much as we adhere to discipline in our daily life, so we must adhere to discipline in our public life. We must adhere to public order. Adherence to discipline is the evidence of awareness and progress. Discipline helps in the proper investment of time and prevents disorder among various activities as far as the individual and society are concerned. Discipline enables one to avert many ambushes and labyrinths. It reduces mistakes and dangers and gives better results. Let us get accustomed to discipline and let us adhere to it at home, at school, in the street, city, village and everywhere.

Fifth, let us give great value to the concept of martyrdom in society. Martyrdom is a basic necessity for every national struggle against invaders and imperialists. It is the primary indispensable base for protecting the homeland and liberating the lands. The moment in which one reaches the highest ranks of humanity is the moment in which he proceeds toward martyrdom out of conviction in it, when duty requires him to do so. The martyr is the one who reaches the highest ranks of humanity when he is martyred. Martyrdom is the embodiment of patriotism and nationalism. The martyr finds his life in the lives of others and finds his existence in the existence of others. He does not care for his independent, separate personality or see everything through it, whether homeland, universe or life. Let us glorify martyrdom. Let martyrdom be greatly cherished in our own consciences. Let martyrdom be our path when the homeland is in need of it. [applause]

I wanted to submit these five concepts to you. Undoubtedly they represent a great responsibility because they are related to fateful issues. The teacher has the primary right to deal with these issues and to take the initiative in handling them, for the teachers give this people one vanguard group after another after nourishing them with knowledge and conveying to them the substance of their own knowledge and experience. I believe that these concepts will be consolidated and strengthened through the ideas you will present in the conference with the aim of raising the standard of education and improving the curriculums in a manner that raises the level of qualified people, develops resources, and advances talents. Therefore, our primary goal in education is to prepare our generations in a strong way to shoulder the burdens of life and to shoulder their responsibilities and to perform their patriotic duties in a sound manner.

Brother members of the congress, our struggle is passing through a unique phase--unique in its characteristics and unique in its seriousness--as a result of the dangerous imbalance which the Arab front was exposed to when the Egytpian president went to Jerusalem--something which was unexpected, or uncalculated. This has led to an imbalance in the equations in the area, unprecedented since the Crusades. We can say without hesitation that the least this visit did was to sacrifice Arab interests at the altar of the aggressive Israeli ambitions.

No matter how hard we try to find one shred of Arab benefit in this, we cannot. While discussing the aspects and dimensions of this visit, we find only one Israeli gain after another and one Arab loss after another.

I do not want to reply to anyone or slander anyone while here, because facts speak for themselves, by themselves. In my judgment, the best way to understand what they are doing is for us to listen to them when they speak about what they are doing, because playing with words and attempts to speak as actors cannot lead to a situation where falsehood becomes truth or defeatism, heroism or death, life. No articulate words or theatrical performances can deceive us and turn us from Arabs defending Arab interests into Arabs defending aggressive Israeli interests without our realizing it. [applause]

We cannot be deceived into turning from strugglers for peace into advocates of capitulation. I can now take their statements and discuss them statement by statement. However, as I have said, facts speak for themselves, by themselves. Nevertheless, in the future I might discuss what they have said and what they are saying and analyze it, if I find this necessary or useful.

What is more important than all this, however, is that we should continue to consolidate our steadfast position, continue to work to destroy and foil all attempts at capitulation, and develop our confidence so that no attempts at capitulation or temptation can make us afraid or lead us to defeatism.

We must also develop confidence in the fact that this imbalance which has taken place, despite its seriousness and its scope, will only prompt us to be more determined and to have more self-confidence, based on the fact that what has happened is a great setback which we must and can overcome, and that we have set our feet on the beginning of the road. [applause]

We will stay with peace, as we have declared. We will remain steadfast against defeatism and capitulation, as we have explained. Right is with us. Justice is with us. Peace is with us, and force should be with us and, certainly, the future and victory are with us. [applause]

Brother members of the congress, you have in your hands the future of our coming generations. You shoulder a precious trust--our sons. Your duty is to rear these sons, psychologically, mentally and physically, and to supply them with the food which enables them to shoulder burdens and perform their responsibilities so that they can complete the mission of liberation and construction which we have begun and continue on the road to victory. The more they have of this food, the easier will be their task and the shorter the road.

The struggle of our generation to achieve the goals of our party for unity, freedom and socialism depends for its success on the success of your efforts. Blessed be these efforts. May God guide you in achieving your mission in the fullest manner. Peace be with you. [applause]

KHADDAM SAYS ISRAEL TRIED TO DRAG SYRIA INTO WAR

JN0914102Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 9 May 78 JN

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam has stressed that any discussion of Arab solidarity must be based first and foremost on an understanding of the term. Arab solidarity means pooling Arab resources to confront the common enemy, defending Arab pride, struggling to liberate occupied Arab land and restoring the legitimate rights of the Palestinian Arab people.

Khaddam wondered how Arab solidarity could mean keeping silent about the deviations taking place in the Arab camp or dragging the Arab nation into a defeatist policy which serves Israel and the Arab nation's other enemies.

In a statement to the head of the journalists association in Abu Dhabi, Shaykh Rashid 'Uwaydah, Khaddam said: If Arab solidarity means deviation and defeatism, then the issue cannot be discussed. However, if Arab solidarity means pooling Arab resources to confront the common enemy, we are struggling to achieve such solidarity.

Khaddam stressed that the current Arab situation is unsound. The Zionist enemy has been able to achieve many political and geographic gains as a result of the policy the Egyptian president has pursued and because of his deviation from Arab unanimity. Khaddam said: Before As-Sadat's visit to occupied Jerusalem, there had been at least a certain degree of Arab commitment to and support for a unified stand. But the visit torpedoed all this. Khaddam said that it was natural for any president of an Arab country who would contact the Zionist enemy to be confronted with an Arab reaction against such a policy and an Arab desire to maintain the nation's pride and its pan-Arab rights. This reaction, which polarized the Arab masses, is a positive landmark in the current stage and can serve as a bastion against the results of this visit.

Khaddam said: We are anxious for Egypt to play a role in the Arab-Zionist conflict, particularly when this role is employed against the Zionist enemy and in the service of the Arab nation's interests. For this reason, we say to all those who show concern for Arab solidarity to take action to thwart the policy pursued by the Egyptian president.

Khaddam further said that the Egyptian president is trying to belittle the minds of his Arab brothers. At a time when President as-Sadat is praising the U.S. President and the Israelis, we find a completely different stand in Washington and Tel Aviv. When As-Sadat was making a speech extolling his initiative and capitulationist policy--which has become unmasked to all and doomed to failure--the White House was celebrating the 30th anniversary of the establishment of Israel.

Khaddam expressed his conviction that it is time for everyone to realize the gravity of the policy pursued by the Egyptian president against the interests of Egypt and the Arab nation. Khaddam said: All those who speak of Arab solidarity are required frankly to declare the erroneousness of the policy which As-Sadat has pursued and to condemn this policy, which has deeply harmed our Arab nation's pride and interests. This policy has also been of great service to the Zionist enemy. People must say to the Egyptian president: Return to your senses, close the Cairo-Tel Aviv road and declare your commitment to the Arab decision so that this may plead for you if you are willing to accept merciful intercession.

Speaking about the Zionist aggression against southern Lebanon, Khaddam said: The Zionist aggression against southern Lebanon was a natural result of the Egyptian president's initiative on the one hand and the general Arab situation on the other. This aggression is linked to the Israeli-Egyptian scheme to impose a state of affairs in which As-Sadat and Begin can reach an Egyptian-Israeli agreement under the umbrella of inability in the Arab homeland.

This scheme is also designed to drag Syria into a military confrontation with Israel in southern Lebanon. This in turn would force Syria to increase its forces in southern Lebanon, which would affect Syria's defensive ability and give Israel a chance to move against Syrian territory after Syria had divided its forces between the deterrent forces fighting in southern Lebanon and the forces that remained in Syria. Thus Israel would have the opportunity to strike at Syria as the first confrontation state which undertook the task of continuing steadfastness and confrontation of the Zionist existence and its expansionist, aggressive ambitions.

Khaddam stated that during the aggression in Lebanon, Syria provided air cover for the deterrent forces. This made the Israeli Air Force stop flying northward, after the Syrian Air Force was in Lebanese airspace. As a result, the Syrian Air Force has insured air protection to all Palestinian camps and to five-sixths of Lebanese territory. At the same time, President Hafiz al-Asad made a decision to open Syrian airspace and territory to all those who wanted to participate in the struggle against the Israeli enemy or to send aid to the Palestinian resistance. This is what Syria has given. What did the others do?

Khaddam asked if the responsibility for resisting Israel is the responsibility of the steadfastness countries alone, or if it is the responsibility of all Arab countries? Must the decision of war remain in the hands of Israel, or must it also be an Arab decision?

Concluding his statement, Khaddam said: Making a decision to go to war must not be governed by emotion, but taken on the basis of complete comprehension of all circumstances and capabilities. In any event, Syria was the target of the war in southern Lebanon. Syria has carried out all its pan-Arab commitments at a time when the others offered nothing.

CYPRIOT EDEK DELEGATION BEGINS TALKS IN DAMASCUS

JN091748Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 9 May 78 JN

[Text] A session of talks was held in the Ba'th Party National Command building today between a Ba'th Party delegation headed by Comrade Dr Fawwaz Sayyagh, member of the National Command and head of the Foreign Relations Office, and the delegation of the Cypriot Unified Democratic Union of the Center [EDEK] headed by Dr Vassos Lissaridhis, chairman of the party.

During the talks, a discussion was held on issues of common interest to the two parties and peoples. Dr Lissaridhis outlined his party's viewpoint on finding a just solution to the Cypriot problem based on safeguarding the unity, sovereignty and independence of Cyprus, and nonintervention in its domestic affairs by any foreign party. He also affirmed his party's firm and constant stand on the Arab issue. This stand is based on total withdrawal of the Zionist forces from all the occupied Arab land and guaranteeing the national rights of the Palestinian people in establishing their state on their land and homeland.

Dr Lissaridhis also affirmed that the unilateral steps being pursued by some Arab regimes will not lead to a just and lasting peace in the Middle East. He added that the solution of the problem is based on the principles proclaimed by the Ba'th Party and Syria under the leadership of Comrade Hafiz al-Asad, secretary general of the party and president of the Syrian Arab Republic.

Comrade Dr Sayyagh reviewed the situation in the Arab area. He affirmed that peace cannot be established except on the basis of total withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories and guaranteeing the Palestinian people's rights in their land and home land. He explained the role of the steadfastness and confrontation front in resisting the capitulationist steps being pursued by some Arab regimes to harm the just struggle of the Arab nation.

Comrade Dr Sayyagh affirmed that the Ba'th Party's stand on the solution of the Cypriot problem is based on guaranteeing the unity and sovereignty of Cyprus, and nonintervention in its domestic affairs. He also stressed the party's principled stand in supporting world liberation movements in general, and particularly in Namibia, Zimbabwe, South Africa and Eritrea, as well as the party's support for the peoples of Latin America and peoples in general to free themselves from imperialist domination.

Received by Al-Asad

JN092050Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 9 May 78 JN

[Excerpt] His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad received at 1430 today Dr Vassos Lissaridhis, chairman of the Cypriot Unified Democratic Union of the Center [EDEK], and the members of the EDEK Party delegation, which includes the secretary general of the party. The meeting was attended by Dr Fawwaz Sayyagh, head of the Foreign Relations Office in the Ba'th Party National Command.

The discussion dealt with developments in the situation in Cyprus, the situation in the Middle East and the connection between the situations in Cyprus and the Middle East.

Discusses Developments With Khaddam

JN100558Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 10 May 78 JN

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam received in his office yesterday a delegation of the Cypriot Unified Democratic Union of the Center led by party Chairman Dr Vassos Lissaridhis. During the meeting, the discussion revolved around the latest developments in the area and relations between the two friendly countries.

ALGERIA

ASH-SHA'B ATTACKS PRO-U.S. ARABS, AS-SADAT SUPPORTERS

LD091525Y Algiers ASH-SHA'B in Arabic 4 May 78 p 1 LD

[Editorial]

[Text] It is no longer a secret to those following the implementation of the Zionist-imperialist plan in the Mashriq that the aim of the suspect moves by the Arab countries that hastened to support As-Sadat's surrender initiative is not to preserve Arab solidarity, which As-Sadat's initiative and these countries stabbed in the back, but rather to find a way out of the impasse in which the Egyptian regime and its allies found themselves after the United States frustrated their hopes of putting pressure on the Zionist entity in order to curb its expansionist ambitions in the area.

The pro-U.S. Arabs today realized the limitations of U.S. pressure and of the strength of the U.S. President, who could not but declare his acceptance and adoption of the Israeli peace concept, despite the embarrassment he has caused to pro-U.S. Arabs in the area. As-Sadat found nothing to say except to praise Carter.

The pro-U.S. Arabs, having been let down by President Carter's moral principles--moral principles which Begin praised--and having lost their wager on the United States, have now gone back to look for the weapon of Arab solidarity and the unity of Arab ranks. But whose unity and in the face of whom?

The attitude toward As-Sadat's initiative today has become the strict criterion distinguishing between the forces and regimes that care for the national cause and the regimes that are anxious to please imperialism and implement imperialist policies.

Therefore, the moves being taken by these regimes under the pretext of achieving national reconciliation and preserving Arab solidarity reflect their fear of internal upheavals as a reaction to harming the national cause. Such regimes cannot forget that the 23 July 1952 revolution was a reaction to the exploitation by the defunct monarchical regime of the lives of people and of their vanguards who were fighting in Palestine.

Therefore, these regimes are today in vain searching for a "national garb" that would restore their prestige before their own people and the Arab masses and would defer the moment, which undoubtedly is coming, when they will be brought to account.

What is surprising, if not disgusting, is that As-Sadat still has the courage to attack, to consider himself still following the correct path, and to regard those who oppose his surrender policy as misguided and indulging in outbidding.

The recent blow that As-Sadat's initiative has dealt to Arab solidarity, the national cause, the higher interests of the Arab nation and the Palestinian people is no longer tolerable or subject to negotiations, regardless of the slogans raised. Those who today pretend to care for Arab solidarity should have acted earlier to prevent As-Sadat from deviating from the Arab ranks and should not have helped him with their silence and even support as he trampled on all the achievements of Arab solidarity and rendered this solidarity devoid of any strength.

Let, then, the pro-U.S. Arabs turn to the United States to restore their prestige for them if it can, which we do not think it can.

ALGERIAN PAPER CRITICIZES FRENCH INTERVENTION IN AFRICA

LD091652Y Algiers ASH-SHA'B in Arabic 7 May 78 p 1 LD

[Editorial]

[Text] The racist South African regime was not the only one the Security Council resolution intended to condemn for the vicious attack on Angola. Indeed, the Western countries as well were in the dock and stood condemned. The fact that they were compelled to support the Security Council resolution will not in any way make the world forget that they are materially and morally responsible for the crimes of the Pretoria regime and its abominable racist policy.

The West's hypocritical policy is best represented by the French government's attitude, for at the same time the French spokesman was denouncing the racist aggression against Angola's sovereignty and the attack on the Namibian refugees, the Elysee Palace was issuing orders to the French Air Force to attack the Saharan people and to strike at the liberation army forces in the Western Sahara.

It was no coincidence that the planes killing the Saharans and those killing Namibian refugees in Angola are French made, the Jaguar here and the Mirage there.

It was no coincidence that the excuse given to justify the French interference on the side of invading forces and to disguise the colonialist ambitions in the area and the covetting of the Sahara's wealth is the same excuse given by the South African regime to justify its continued illegitimate occupation of Namibia and grabbing of its wealth.

The justification of aggression is the same: protecting the lives of French citizens and South African citizens against the threats of "terrorists."

Therefore, France should be the last to give lessons in morality to a regime indebted to it for its existence. Condemning South Africa's aggression against Angola's sovereignty and the Namibian refugees cannot absolve France before world opinion.

The double racist attack on Angola once again raises the question of the serious responsibility the NATO countries , particularly the major powers, shoulder for threatening the security of African peoples and for the criminal racist policy pursued by the regime in the area.

Had it not been for political, economic and military aid--including nuclear weapons--and for the United Nations being prevented from taking drastic measures, this regime would not have been able to defy the world community and ignore the UN resolutions on the right of the Namibian people to exercise self-determination.

In view of the organic and strategic alliance between NATO and the racist regimes in southern Africa, African public opinion has a right to wonder about the honesty and seriousness of Western-proposed solutions and whether the purpose of these solutions is to submerge the national liberation movement in a sea of agreements and internal settlements whose aim is to maintain the domination of the racist regimes and the agent internal forces.

LIBYA

BBC TELEVISION INTERVIEWS LIBYA'S AL-QADHDHAFI

LD091046Y London BBC Domestic Television Service in English 2205 GMT 8 May 78 LD

[Interview with Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, general secretary of the General People's Congress of Libya, conducted by David Lomax and carried on the "Tonight" program--recorded; date and place not specified. Al-Qadhdhafi's answers in Arabic with superimposed English translation]

[Excerpts] [Question] Are you prepared to recognize any form of Israel?

[Answer] The body called Israel is a racist, colonial and political phenomenon that emerged from the Second World War, exactly like Rhodesia, and the racist and colonial aspects of it make it impossible for us to recognize it.

[Question] Is it not unrealistic to expect that after 30 years Israel will simply disappear?

[Answer] That depends on the capability of the Palestinian people to score victories over the racists who occupied the Palestinian land.

[Question] But are you not makeing a second people who are dispossessed, the second people who will be homeless?

[Answer] No, they have come from their countries and they will have to return to their countries. Jews who constitute what is now called Israel have come from and are citizens of other countries and have the nationalities of those countries and should return to them. But the Oriental Jews, who were originally in Palestine, ought to stay and live with the Palestinians as they have done for thousands of years.

[Lomax] In the past Al-Qadhdhafi has offered the Egyptians lavish support--even union--when they were at war with the Israelis. But when As-Sadat started peace overtures with Israel, he became, in Al-Qadhdhafi's eyes, a traitor to the Arab cause. As-Sadat in turn called him the lunatic of Libya.

[Al-Qadhdhafi] I have no personal feud with As-Sadat.

[Question] But when he calls you something like the lunatic of Libya, how do you feel about that?

[Answer] He is not a doctor, this indicates that he himself is a lunatic.

[Question] But he has made very many serious allegations about your conduct, or the Egyptians made very many serious allegations about your conduct. Muhammad Haykal, for instance, said that you had once ordered an Egyptian submarine to go and torpedo the QE2, which was taking, then, a lot of Jewish people to Israel. What would have been the effect of that on the other countries?

[Answer] This would mean reexamining the records for that period. And anyway that was a long time ago.

[Question] But did you actually order sometody to...an Egyptian submarine to go and torpedo the QE2?

[Answer] In any case, there are many military operations between us and the enemy and it is impossible to follow up each incident. As for the Jews, they shot down one of our civilian airplanes. It was carrying more than 100 civilian passengers, half of them women and children.

[Question] But it is actually true then that as a retaliation for that, you were actually considering ordering an attack on the QE2?

[Answer] There is no answer other than the one I just gave you.

[Question] Why have so many of your Arab neighbors accused you of aiding subversion in their countries?

[Answer] We have not been accused of destruction, but have been accused of backing the revolution.

[Question] But why have you been accused of helping people who were trying to overturn the governments of your Arab neighbors?

[Answer] Because we are leading a popular revolution, we are accused of backing all popular movements. We do not deny that people will be affected by this and we support popular revolution everywhere, and support the principle that the people will try and overthrow their oppressors everywhere.

[Question] How do you react to the allegations abroad that you are still a supporter, a principal supporter, of so-called international terrorism, as has been proved in the past by your help to the IRA and your help to hijackers and the way you acted as host to Carlos?

[Answer] We are against terrorism and those who accuse us, the only country in the world with severe legislation against terrorists. On the other hand, we have at times offered intensive humanitarian assistance to people who could have been victims of terrorism, when, for example, we allowed the Japanese airplane to land and saved the hostages. Otherwise it would have exploded in midair if we had not allowed it to land.

[Question] You are saying that you are absolutely against all forms of hijacking for whatever motive?

[Answer] Of course.

[Question] When was the last time you gave material support to the IRA?

[Answer] We have not given them arms, but have given them moral and political support because we believe that the Irish people's cause is a just one. We know from ancient history that Ireland is Ireland, Britain, Britain.

[Question] But 2 or 3 years ago there was a whole boatload. A boat called the "Claudia" was found with arms which have originally come from Libya?

[Answer] We are not responsible for such allegations.

[Question] What were your relationships with Carlos?

[Answer] Who is that Carlos? We do not know who Carlos is.

[Question] You do not know who Carlos is?

[Answer] No, I do not know him.

[Question] Carlos is the man who is said to have masterminded the raid on OPEC in Vienna.

[Answer] We know that a group attacked the oil ministers and one member of the Libyan delegation was killed. These people are wanted by us so that they can be tried, especially for killing a member of the Libyan delegation.

[Question] How can the new form of government you have here in Libya meet the needs of the people when there are no parties and no parliament and no opposition?

[Answer] And no government also.

[Question] And no government? How is that possible?

[Answer] The authority of people.

[Question] Some people would say that this is a way of disguising a one-man state.

[Answer] Or vice versa. It is the opposite, it is the people opposing one man.

[Question] How is it possible for this country to be governed without a parliament, without a government, without parties, without an opposition? Is it not true that you yourself still have ultimate authority here?

[Answer] Through popular conferences, popular committees and syndicates and the people's general congress--this is a direct democratic way. We do not blame the people in other countries for their government by the tools of dictatorships. They cannot imagine that there is a country with direct democracy or that there is the people's authority in the world. But it suffices that we are the first Jamahiriyah on earth, or the only Jamahiriyah in the world.

[Question] Why is it not possible for you to have, for you to allow, to tolerate an opposition party here, in this country?

[Answer] This is an old conventional concept that you are talking about from before the era of the Jamahiriyah. Now the people's authority has risen, risen to government, so there cannot be an opposition to it. The opposition emerges so that it tries to take over the power from the government. But as the power has been taken over completely by the people, there is no struggle for power, and there is no need for opposition or parties.

[Question] And how do you answer the reports that last year at least 22 army officers were executed in public for opposition against your regime?

[Answer] This figure is not right. But anyway this does not reflect on the popular democracy that is in our country. All countries have laws, every society has laws, and whoever breaks the laws is punished accordingly. And there are people who would not accept to be assimilated into the Jamahiriyah era. And they were victims of reactionary thoughts to try to hamper the people's authority or set up dictatorial aims to govern instead of the people, and committed the great treason so they will be punished just as they would have been in any society and at any time.

TUNISIA

SUDANESE PRESIDENT NUMAYRI ARRIVES IN TUNIS

LD091119Y Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 9 May 78 LD

[Text] Sudanese President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri arrived a short time ago at Tunis International Airport, Carthage, from Alexandria. His visit comes within the framework of the fraternal relations between Tunisia and Sudan and the mission of the Arab Solidarity Committee he heads. The chairmanship of this committee was entrusted to him by the Arab League. Prior to his visit to Tunisia, the Sudanese president visited Syria and Iraq and then returned to Egypt for a second time last Sunday.

Makes Statement on Visit

LD091300Y Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 9 May 78 LD

[Excerpt] In the VIP lounge at Tunis International Airport President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri made the following statement to a radio and television reporter: [Begin recording]

[Numayri] I am very happy to be here on the soil of fraternal Tunisia. I would like to say that this journey and its dimensions are part of the attempts being made by the Arab Solidarity Committee to find out the ideas and opinions of the various Arab heads of state and to discover their view of the Arab solidarity we are seeking. I have come here today to exchange ideas and opinions with my elder brother Habib Bourguiba and his government on this question of Arab solidarity.

[Question] Mr President, do you think the time has actually come to hold an Arab summit conference that finally unites the ranks and permits the formulation of a unified strategy to confront the Israeli aggression and find a basic solution to the Palestinian issue?

[Answer] The effort we are making is an attempt to close ranks and pave the way for holding a summit conference that lays down a specific strategy to which all Arab states commit themselves.

Holds Talks With Nouira

LD100218Y Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 9 May 78 LD

[Text] Prime Minister Hedi Nouira gave a dinner party this evening in honor of Sudanese President Muhammad Ja'far Numayri, who is currently in Tunisia. Members of the government, members of the accompanying visiting delegations and heads of the Arab diplomatic missions in Tunisia attended.

At noon Prime Minister Nouira had talks with the Sudanese president, who stated after the meeting that he had discussed with the prime minister the question of consolidating Arab solidarity in order to be able to confront Israel's challenges and those of the enemies of the Arab nation. The Sudanese president added that he had found all necessary understanding and determination by Tunisian officials to achieve this end.

Regarding bilateral relations, President Numayri stressed the fraternal and historic nature of these relations, noting that the Tunisian and Sudanese identical views are apt to contribute to the further consolidation of these relations.

FURTHER REPORT ON BEGIN PRESS CONFERENCE

TA091259Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 9 May 78 TA

[Text] Prime Minister Begin said his talks in Washington were carried out in an atmosphere of friendliness and understanding. Begin was speaking to reporters at Ben-Gurion Airport this morning after returning from the United States. [begin recording]

[Begin] The Government of Israel will deal with the outstanding problems after the return of the foreign minister to his visit to the Scandinavian countries. No conclusions were reached in Washington, various ideas were raised and, as I said, the decisions will be taken by the cabinet in the near future. There hasn't been a confrontation, as I said to you after the previous visit, the talks were difficult, but now the atmosphere was of understanding and friendliness and this is the difference that is for the better, so I don't have to say now that the confrontation is over because there hasn't been a confrontation. We had discussions about the outstanding problems. We voiced also our differences of opinion, but now the atmosphere was really good.

[Question] Mr Prime Minister, Mr Dayan mentioned in London, talking about a possibility of Palestinian refugees in Lebanon returning to this land in the framework of the peace agreements. Could you elaborate on this?

[Answer] I haven't heard a statement of Mr Dayan, I know of what is written in our peace plan and in the peace plan a suggestion was made that the committee be established which will deal with this problem and the decisions of that committee should be unanimous. I suppose that our foreign secretary meant that specific paragraph included in our peace plan .

[Question] It is your understanding now, Mr Prime Minister, that the peace plan is accepted by Washington as a basis for negotiations?

[Answer] The peace plan is a basis for negotiations, the United States Government didn't endorse it as such, but everybody agrees that it is a fair basis for negotiations.

[Question] In a few months the Sinai II agreement expires. Are you afraid that Egypt may work for the war option if the expiration date comes and no progress has been made toward a peaceful solution?

[Answer] As you will understand yourself, I cannot speak for Egypt. It's not the expiration of the agreement, in the agreement is written that it should be superseded by another agreement. These are the real contents and let us hope, as all of us do, that the mutual pledge given by President as-Sadat and myself to each other during our meetings in Jerusalem, no more war, will be fulfilled. We are going to fulfill it, I do hope that the other side will do the same. No more war, and there will be the peace-making process which will continue and, as we hope, will be renewed. [end recording]

FOREIGN MINISTER DAYAN ON EUROPEAN TOUR

BBC Interview

LD090918Y London BBC Domestic Television Service in English 1830 GMT 8 May 78 LD

[Richard Kershaw interview with Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan on the "Newsday" program--recorded]

[Text] Today Mr Dayan had a session with Mr Callaghan at which some of the British Government's anxieties about what is happening in the Middle East were expressed.

There are two key questions to which no one publicly knows the answers. Can the momentum started by President as-Sadat's visit to Jerusalem be recovered and peace talks restarted? Secondly, will Israel's current government and its proposals for the occupied West Bank leave any room for Egypt and other Arab states to negotiate on the basis they would find reasonable? This evening Moshe Dayan came to the Newsday studio:

[Question] Mr Dayan, would it not, or will it not, be disastrous if after all the optimism raised by the As-Sadat-Begin meetings, the whole exercise were to end in failure?

[Answer] I do not know whether it would be disastrous. I would not use such strong words, but it will be most disappointing as we should try to avoid that by all means.

[Question] Well, would it not make things worse if they had not happened at all because it could threaten the stability of some of the moderate Arab states like even President as-Sadat?

[Answer] Well, I would not say that. I think it is a fact that an Arab leader tried, even if he would fail, tried and did come to Jerusalem and we start the negotiation, that will have its impact on the future, a positive one.

[Question] Does life remain in what the world has been calling the As-Sadat initiative? Is there life left in it?

[Answer] I think really that the main point is how we live with the Arabs practically. There are two kinds of problems; one of territory and the other one, human, being with the Arabs. And I may be wrong, but I attach more importance to the question: Can we live together with the Arabs without depriving their feeling of independence and living with one another more than the question of territories, where exactly the line would be?

[Question] Yes, I was thinking more of the actual negotiations. You have just been 2 days in Washington, where Mr Begin is still at this moment. Can you give us any clues as to how the negotiations might restart?

[Answer] Well, if it will go the way that we hope it will then we shall resume negotiation with Egypt not over formulation, what two for two really means or the declaration of principles, but on the issue how are we to deal with the West Bank, the Gaza Strip and probably with Sinai too.

[Question] Issue by issue rather than by legal formulation.

[Answer] Exactly, and probably with the West Bank first, about Gaza Strip, about Jerusalem, about free movement between the Arab part to Israel of goods and people and about Israeli forces in the West Bank, about Israeli settlements, such questions, immigration of Palestinians who are now in refugee camps in Lebanon and other places to the West Bank.

[Question] Are there any indications that the Egyptians are thinking of reopening negotiations, coming back to the talks?

[Answer] Oh, I can say something, a little bit not clear. I think that the Americans with whom we have contacts would not have been forthcoming about that unless they believed that the Egyptians would. We are not negotiating peace with the Americans, so I take it that if they agree that that can be done they probably tried and felt with the Egyptians, and they think it is possible.

[Question] One of the things you had to try and achieve in America of course was that the American public opinion polls do show that President as-Sadat has won a good deal of sympathy, you have in a sense a public relations problem. Did you achieve anything in Washington? Do you believe that you are getting the support of American public opinion again which you to some extent were losing?

[Answer] We have lost some of our public opinion. I did not try this time, maybe Prime Minister Begin on his tour achieved it. I do not know. I was in Washington for 2 days and it was devoted entirely to negotiations with the State Department. I do not think I have become more popular because of that.

[Question] I was not thinking about popularity so much. There is a direct political issue which is the question of the American arms, planes in particular, supplying them to Saudi Arabia and to Egypt at the same time as you. You look as if you may be going to fail in preventing that being kept as a package.

[Answer] Could be. Well as a matter of fact I did not deal with that either.

[Question] You spoke about it, did you not, at the State Department?

[Answer] No, no, no, not really. I was asked when I left Israel, Tel Aviv, I was asked in the airport what the Israeli Government position about that was and I tell it. But once I came to America I did not deal with that, did not lobby about it and had all my time spent in the State Department discussing the peace negotiations, only that.

[Question] In Israel, talking of public opinion, there have been signs of what I think calls itself the Peace Now Movement, and there was a big demonstration of exofficers on 1 April.

[Answer] A medium demonstration.

[Question] A medium demonstration--well, a demonstration expressing the view that there was not enough flexibility from the current Israeli Government on the territorial question. What do you say to them? How do you explain that new movement or feeling in Israel?

[Answer] Well, people want peace and there is nothing wrong with that. What is more, they do not want war, and there is nothing wrong with that either. Now I would like to hear from those people who demonstrate, what exactly the Israeli Government should do which we are not doing, where exactly we are not flexible enough. You know that we have been criticized that we have been offering too much in the Sinai until recently, and now really I do not know what we should do more about Sinai in order to meet the Egyptian request. And so for the West Bank, no one is sitting down with us to negotiate over it.

[Question] Could I, without your inside knowledge obviously, express an alternative view that As-Sadat took a terrific gamble when he came to Jerusalem, that he needed presentation or help from your side if he was going to sell it even to moderate Arab states? Do you accept that?

[Answer] Yes, I do. I do. I think it was a very daring move and a very courageous one, and I think constructive too.

[Question] And you also got what you wanted, which was direct bilateral talks with Egypt. It is what you were always looking for as a policy.

[Answer] What we want is peace now, really. What we really want is peace.

[Question] But as a route to peace, you always wanted direct talks with Egypt.

[Answer] It is better than indirect talks, but I would rather have indirect talks productive than direct talks which get us nowhere. But anyway, I appreciate what As-Sadat did, and I think what we did in return, that is to say, offering to him the sovereignty over the entire Sinai, it was the best that we could have done. No one, no Israeli Government or anyone else ever thought that that would be the Israeli attitude to offer him: Get all Sinai under your sovereignty.

[Question] Well, you were in these negotiations which, of course, were secret. But one got the impression that the Egyptians did feel they were getting most of what they wanted from you, but there were other issues, it was other issues which made the blocks--Palestinians, West Bank issues. Am I correct?

[Answer] Absolutely.

[Question] Well, can I ask you therefore about the West Bank?

[Answer] Please.

[Question] What you call Judaea and Samaria. For some time the fiction--if I can call it that--was preserved, that the Jewish settlements which your government was permitting on the West Bank were within military areas only. But to your mind are they not permanent?

[Answer] Yes, they are permanent, and I do not think that this is the obstacle for peace or for negotiations with As-Sadat. Not at all. I do agree with you that As-Sadat had a feeling that he got about Sinai almost everything that he wanted and he started talking about the Palestinian question, not about the settlements there. And his problem was whether another Arab leader will join the talks and speak for the Palestinians and on behalf of the West Bank. And none of them came. So As-Sadat found himself in a dilemma. On one hand he did not want a separate peace to be concluded between Egypt and Israel, and on the other hand no other Arab, not Israeli, not another Arab leader joined his talks. So that is the problem, not Israeli settlements.

[Question] A measure of the risk President as-Sadat took perhaps?

[Answer] Well, I think that he hoped when he started that other Arab leaders will join him, especially for the Cairo conference. He prepared the chairs there for the PLO, for King Husayn, for Al-Asad, none of them came. It was not the Israeli settlements, it was the absence of King Husayn that blocked the negotiations.

[Question] I am going to see King Husayn this weekend. Is there anything you would like to say to him personally through this program?

[Answer] He would be most welcome to join the negotiations. No preconditions whatever, what he would ask would be negotiated. And let him come and present his plan. He will find us most forthcoming.

[Question] Now, can I come back to the West Bank? In your government's suggestion for a measure of autonomy for the West Bank, is the question of sovereignty--the vital question of sovereignty--left open?

[Answer] Yes, it does. And what we say is that the question of sovereignty will stay open. No Israeli sovereignty--we could have annexed the West Bank--no Israeli sovereignty, no other sovereignty. We presented the plan for 5 years and if at any time one party would claim the sovereignty, then the other will have the same option and then we shall discuss it.

[Question] Can I put the question I put to Mr Begin just before he saw President as-Sadat? I asked him what personally to him the status of Judaea and Samaria, the West Bank, was. I asked him in this way: Is it liberated territory, occupied territory, disputed territory, or what? How would you answer that?

[Answer] Well, the territory as such is what we call Eretz Yisra'el, the land of Israel where Jews lived in our old history, but never alone, never alone. We were really never the only people that lived in the West Bank. Always there were other people. So for me, this is my old homeland, but I am not after driving away the Arabs or substituting them or trying to be the only party or the only independent party there. That is not the case.

[Question] Under the autonomy plan you would expect with--as we said--sovereignty still left open, you would expect Israelis to be allowed to live anywhere within that territory, within the West Bank?

[Answer] Yes, that is right.

[Question] And would you expect West Bankers to be allowed to live within Israel or only if they took Israeli citizenship?

[Answer] Now to enter Israel they are free, they should be and they will be free to go to Israel, to work in Israel and so on and so forth. But the question is not whether the West Bank would be equivalent to Israel. We have two sovereign countries. One is Jordan on the east side of the Jordan River, not the West Bank. And another sovereign country, which is the State of Israel on the west side, and in between, between the River Jordan, between Jordan, the State of Jordan and the State of Israel we have a narrow strip of what is left of the West Bank and this is the area in between where I think that there should not be an independent state and both Arabs and Jews should live together.

[Question] Linked to Jordan?

[Answer] Well, not in the way of sovereignty, nor to Israel.

[Question] Are you going to press ahead as a government with this autonomy scheme even if the negotiations do not revive?

[Answer] My personal view is that we should, that...I think really that we should abolish to a great extent the military rule there and try to live with the Arabs the way I think that we should live, on an equal [word indistinct]. That is to say, that are and should be Jordanian citizens, keeping their contact with Jordan, while Jews living the West Bank should maintain their contact with Israel. With no military regime there, no Israeli interference in their way of life.

So I hope that we shall have a peace agreement. But just in case that we will not, I hope that the Israeli Government will agree that we will do it onesided to try to have a more normal way of life living together.

[Question] Now, we are reaching toward the end of our time, can I briefly ask you two questions? Firstly, the action taken into Lebanon and subsequently Israeli withdrawals, did that action achieve what was intended?

[Answer] Now I think it has provided--I was not sure before, I am quite sure now--but provided that the UN troops will live up to their promises, to the promise of the Secretary Waldheim, that is to say that they will not allow armed people to enter into this area.

[Question] Do you think that they can though? With the forces they have got?

[Answer] I think they can. The question is whether they want, whether they will get such orders. Secretary Waldheim has promised me that they will open fire on any armed people who are not Lebanese if they try to enter that area. If they will do that, then we have achieved our target.

[Question] Finally and briefly, how did your meeting with Mr Callaghan go today?

[Answer] Well, it was very interesting for me. I listened very carefully to what he had to say. I cannot say that we agreed about everything, but it was a very friendly talk.

[Question] Was he trying to press you to be more flexible?

[Answer] He tried to...I would not say more flexible, but to take such steps necessary in order to renew the negotiations.

[Question] Mr Dayan, thank you very much.

[Answer] Thank you.

Sees Talks With Egypt

TA091348Y Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 9 May 78 pp 1, 7 TA

[By Ilan Kfir]

[Excerpt] London--Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan yesterday expressed a certain degree of optimism regarding prospects for an early renewal of the Israeli-Egyptian negotiations. He was talking to me a short while before taking off for Oslo, at the start of his journey to Scandinavian capitals.

If and when political talks with Egypt are resumed, Dayan told me, they will apparently take place on a new and practical basis: substantive discussions on each and every item rather than on a declaration of principles, "and the first subject will be the future of the West Bank and of Jerusalem."

To avoid misunderstandings, the foreign minister stressed that it should be made clear now that in those discussions Israel will be guided by a line stipulating that a united Jerusalem would undeniably be the capital of Israel and that no settlement terms would allow a Palestinian state to be established between Israel and Jordan in the West Bank.

Talks in Norway

TA100705Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 10 May 78 TA

[Text] Foreign Minister Dayan has refused to set up a specific date for the withdrawal of troops from southern Lebanon, but he told Norwegian Prime Minister Odvar Nordli that the UN peacekeeping forces would end their mission in southern Lebanon only when a stable government is set up in Beirut.

The foreign minister added that if the UN forces succeed in the mission in southern Lebanon, Israel might consider agreeing to giving UN forces other tasks under the peace agreements.

His Norwegian counterpart, Knut Frydenlund, expressed concern over the security of Norwegian forces in southern Lebanon.

Meanwhile, at the University of Oslo, over 2,000 Palestinian supporters demonstrated yesterday against Foreign Minister Dayan's visit.

Today, celebrations are to be held at the university in honor of Israel's 30th anniversary.

Expects New War

LD091428Y Stockholm Domestic Service in Swedish 1130 GMT 9 May 78 LD

[Radio Magazine program--recorded segments in quotation marks]

[Excerpt] Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan says that he expects that there will be a new war in the Middle East. The Arab armies are equipped with arms and President as-Sadat has not succeeded in persuading other Arab leaders to join him in working for peace. This is noted by Moshe Dayan in an interview with TV Aktuellt to be broadcast tonight. To the question of whether he fears a new war he answers as follows:

[Dayan--in English, fading into translation] "Yes, I do, even if it is not logical. There is a great risk of a new war as long as the conflict continues. One can never tell when it will start, but just as in the case with Lebanon something can happen. The Arab allies are prepared and they are receiving great military assistance. So there could very well be a new war."

Asked what is the greatest obstacle to peace in the Middle East, Dayan answered:

"I think just now the greatest obstacle is that President as-Sadat is unable to get other Arab leaders to cooperate in his peace initiative. He will not have a separate peace. That is why As-Sadat is very unwilling to continue the peace talks."

Asked if Israel is responsible for the stagnant situation prevalent in the Middle East, Dayan answers:

"You can blame it all on Israel, but I do not really think that we can do more than we are doing. We are prepared to negotiate on peace quite unreservedly--everything can be negotiated--at any time, in any place, either separate or joint peace agreements. We can of course be blamed, but what more can we do than we are already doing.

"The fact that Israel is ready to negotiate with anybody, anywhere, and without reserve is an old Israeli standpoint. By saying so and by emphasizing that everything can be negotiated one wants to [word indistinct] UN Resolution 242. It says that Israel must withdraw from the territory that was occupied in 1967 and it is the resolution the Arab side wants to have as a basis for the peace talks."

U.S. BACKS WALDHEIM'S DEMAND FOR TOTAL IDF WITHDRAWAL

TA091155Y Tel Aviv HA'AREZ in Hebrew 9 May 78 p 1 TA

[By 'Uzzi Benziman]

[Text] The United States is backing the UN secretary general in his demand that Israel complete the withdrawal of its forces from southern Lebanon at once. The first indications of this have been recently received in Jerusalem.

Dr Kurt Waldheim claims that the Security Council resolution regarding the evacuation of IDF forces from southern Lebanon commits Israel to a total and immediate withdrawal.

Israel claims that there is a connection between this part of the resolution and the second part, which says that calm should reign in the area. Hence, Israel claims that its withdrawal is conditioned by the ability of the UN to deploy its forces in the south and guarantee calm in the area.

Following the Security Council resolution to dispatch 4,000 troops to southern Lebanon, a partial IDF withdrawal from southern Lebanon has been effected. Now, after the Security Council decided to reinforce the UN contingent by 2,000 additional troops, Waldheim demands a total withdrawal of the Israeli forces from the south. Waldheim claims that without setting an early date for the removal of all IDF forces from southern Lebanon, the UN member states will refuse to finance the dispatch of the additional 2,000 troops.

Reports reaching Jerusalem indicate that the United States supports Waldheim's demand. It will be recalled that Washington initiated the Security Council resolution regarding southern Lebanon.

FURTHER IDF WITHDRAWALS TO BE DISCUSSED

TA091206Y Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 9 May 78 p 1 TA

[Excerpt] At the end of this week a meeting will take place between the coordinator of UN Middle East operations, Gen Enzio Siilasvuo, and Chief of Staff Lt Gen Refa'el Eytan. The meeting will be held within the framework of routine contacts between the two parties on the IDF withdrawal from southern Lebanon.

Our correspondent has learned that there is still no conclusion regarding further stages of withdrawal by the IDF, which today controls two Christian enclaves and one Shi'ite enclave.

Israeli elements denied reports that UN pressure had recently been exerted on Israel to speed up the evacuation of southern Lebanon.

RABIN BACKS TERRITORIAL EXCHANGE WITH EGYPT

TA091934Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 9 May 78 TA

[Text] MK Yizhaq Rabin is proposing mutual border changes in the Sinai as the basis for a possible solution between Israel and Egypt. Speaking to a group of activists in the [Labor Party] executive building, Mr Rabin said that the situation in the United States is bad as far as Israel is concerned, despite the improved atmosphere there. Our correspondent Sara Avivi has returned from MK Rabin's talk: [begin recording]

When MK Yizhaq Rabin talks about mutual border changes in the Sinai, he assumes first and foremost that there is no longer a way to retreat from the current government's proposal to recognize Egyptian sovereignty over most of the Sinai Peninsula.

[Rabin] It seems to me today that after a government in Israel, a Likud government, has recognized the return of Egyptian sovereignty as far as the international border, it would be strange if the Alinement said: If we had power, we would turn the clock back. I also maintain that there was no need to come up with such a proposal. To come today and say: No, the stance must be changed, after the whole world knows that this was the Likud government's position, and to say: No, there will not be any return of sovereignty--I think we would not be regarded as being very serious.

[Avivi] Mr Rabin, therefore, proposed mutual border changes in the area, which do not necessarily have to be symmetrical, as he put it. As for the settlement with Jordan--here the former prime minister cannot see a possibility for a permanent solution without an interim stage, or an interim period, with rejection of the decision about sovereignty and the borders.

[Rabin] There are two principles for peace: readiness to make a territorial compromise and linking the solution to the Palestinian problem with a Jordanian-Palestinian state as one political entity. In other words, the principle of a permanent solution is an interim period. I believe that Jordan today might have been ready to accept such a proposal, with Egyptian backing, something which it could not have done alone and against the entire Arab world. [end recording]

DMC INTRAPARTY DIFFERENCES REPORTED

Attack on Leadership

TA091240Y Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 9 May 78 p 2 TA

[By A. Kinarti]

[Text] A heavy attack on the DMC leadership, and particularly on Prof Yiga'el Yadin, was last night voiced at a gathering of an opposition group in the DMC. The group was formed to struggle against the leadership and replace it in the upcoming internal elections in the DMC--as well as to act toward a withdrawal of the DMC from the cabinet.

At the meeting letters by MK's Virshubski and Toledano, who support the opposition struggle, were read.

The chief speakers at the gathering, which was held at Bet Sokolov in Tel Aviv and attended by about 200 DMC members and "DMC voters," were Dan Bibro, Dan Bavli and Uri'el Reichman. Bibro, who is chairman of the DMC Council, said the DMC had joined the cabinet "at the expense of having its principles broken." D. Bavli said that there was a credibility crisis in the DMC. Dr Reichman, who was the most aggressive attacker of the leadership, asserted that the DMC leadership was strengthening the stubborn Begin policy as well as the man himself. Reichman foresees for the DMC a fate similar to that of the "independent liberals," if it does not return to the principles it abandoned.

On Sunday night the DMC leadership held a consultation at the home of M. de Shalit, in view of the opposition activities.

Prof Yiga'el Yadin said last night, in reaction to the opposition, that today he would convene the secretariat for a special session. The secretariat will discuss the gathering and the opposition call to act toward the replacement of the DMC leadership. The Tel Aviv branch of the DMC last night denounced the opposition gathering, describing it as an antidemocratic act.

Secretariat Reprimands Dissenters

TA092104Y Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1910 GMT 9 May 78 TA

[Text] The DMC Executive today called on the chairman of the DMC Council, Dan Bibro, to consider resigning his post, after he participated in organizing a convention which criticized the party's position on peace. The DMC Secretariat also reprimanded two DMC Knesset members, Shemu'el Toledano and Mordekhay Virshubski, for their support for last night's convention. Our correspondent Dan Raviv reports: [begin videotape]

The DMC Secretariat's special convention quickly developed into a wide frontal attack on the chairman of the movement's council, Dan Bibro. Dan Bibro, who holds a key position in the DMC, together with his colleagues Uri Reichman and Dan Bavli, yesterday headed a convention that called upon the DMC's leadership to leave the government if the movement's principles are not realized.

In the resolution, taken unanimously in the DMC Secretariat, it was stated that the conduct of Bibro, who began organizing with elements outside the DMC, is serious, and that he should, therefore, consider if he could continue to act as the chairman of the council. The movement's secretariat also expressed dismay over the publicly declared identification of MK's Virshubski and Toledano with the convention and its goals. Bibro did not appear at today's meeting of the secretariat and thus did not hear the long list of harsh expressions against him.

[Yiga'el Yadin] I think there is a serious flaw here in the democratic procedures, without any connection to the matter of expression of opinions. Dan Bibro, especially, and others as well, have always insisted upon it--when there were exceptions of this sort--that the secretariat and the movement must deal with these things severely. We have democratic institutions, and all these things should be done from within. I personally think that this is a very serious act. [end videotape]

Reacting to the condemnations, MK's Virshubski and Toledano said this evening that they did not accept any resolution referring to them which had been taken without their presence. Similarly, no body and no person has the authority to deprive them of their right to express their opinion.

The chairman of the DMC Council, Dan Bibro, told our correspondent that he would consider his reaction to the secretariat's decision. However, he said that the argument inside the DMC is over matters of essence and that he is sorry that the secretariat did not address this.

STATE FLAGS DESTROYED IN ARAB VILLAGE

TA0911100Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 9 May 78 TA

[Text] In the Arab village Tira, in the Triangle, unidentified people tore up three state flags during the night and set fire to a stage which had been put up on the soccer field for the national sport performance which is due to take place at noon in honor of independence day. The three flags were torn up in the courtyard of the junior high school. The police have begun investigating. Our correspondent (Bassam Jabir) reports that there is a festive atmosphere in the village and it is decorated with flags. The independence day celebrations are being held as planned. Among other things, an exhibition by all the vocational schools in the Arab sector has been opened. The great sports contest will take place although the stage was burned. Many guests are already in Tira for this event.

TEHERAN REPORTS DISTURBANCES, DEMONSTRATIONS IN IRAN

LD091714Y Teheran Domestic Service in Persian 1500 GMT 9 May 78 LD

[Text] Teheran's evening papers today reported that following the recent disturbances, provoked by a handful of saboteurs and foreign agents, a group of deceived individuals has broken the windows of a few movie theaters and banks in Isfahan. The Isfahan and Aryamehr industrial universities in this township are now closed. Another newspaper report indicates that following a speech criticizing government organs in one of the mosques in Shahabad Gharb last night and the distribution of statements in this connection, a group resorted to antipatriotic demonstrations which culminated in the arrest of 11 subversives when the police intervened.

In Yazd, too, a group resorted to issuing statements to incite the people, but a number of Yazd religious figures, censuring these actions, called on the people to remain calm and to avoid antipatriotic demonstrations.

Also in Hamadan, evil incitements and rife rumormongering continue.

In Mashhad, most of the shopkeepers in the Reza Bazaar, Carpet Merchants' Bazaar, and the Great Bazaar, and on Shah Reza, Khorovi, Amir-Asadollah Alam, Iabarsi and Payin-Khiyaban avenues did not open their shops today because of fear of subversives, and in Babol, too, the guilds refrained from opening shops because of fear of subversives.

During a clash in Tabriz which took place between students in Azarabadegan University, a number of the participants were injured.

According to press reports, demonstrations took place at the Social Sciences College in Teheran today and a number of students prevented the holding of classes. In Teheran University colleges, lectures were held with a smaller number of students attending; the Technical College's examinations were held with a number of students absent.

Sabzeh Meydan Square and Teheran's bazaars were only 50 percent open and all shopkeepers closed their places of business because of fear of subversives. Only half of the Shoemakers', Goldsmiths' and Soltani Bazaars were open, and traffic, compared to other days, was lighter.

DISTURBANCES IN TWO IRANIAN CITIES CAUSE SEVEN DEATHS

OW100530Y Hong Kong AFP in English 0528 GMT 10 May 78 OW

[Text] Teheran, May 10 (AFP)--Seven people died in violent disturbances in two Iranian cities yesterday, it was officially announced here today. Unofficial sources said 22 people died.

First reports reaching here said that five people died in the holy town of Qom 140 kms (80 miles) south of here and that two students died in Tabriz, the capital of Azerbaijan, 500 kms (300 miles) northwest of the capital in what were described as "political religious riots against the regime."

Later another official announcement said that another person had been killed in the central Iranian town of Kazroun bringing the official death toll up to eight.

Non-official counts said 12 people died at Qom and 10 at Tabriz.

SHI'ITE LEADER: RIOTS HERALD 'GIGANTIC EXPLOSION'

LD0910457 Paris LE MONDE in French 6 May 78 p 4 LD

[Lucien George undated interview in An-Najaf (Iraq) with head of Iranian Shi'ites, the Ayatollah Khomeiny]

[Excerpts] "If We Achieve Power..."

[Question] The shah accuses you and the other religious leaders of being obscurantist and reactionary. What do you think of this?

[Answer] It is the shah who stands for obscurantism. In all my proclamations to the Iranian people over the past 15 years, I have always called strongly for economic and social development in my country. But the shah, implementing the imperialists' policy, strives to keep Iran in a backward state. His regime is dictatorial: Under it, individual freedoms are abolished and real elections, the press and parties are suppressed. In violation of the constitution, deputies are imposed on the people by the shah, political and religious associations are prohibited, and independence of the courts and cultural freedom no longer exist. The shah has assumed all three powers. He has established a single party system; what is worse, he has made it compulsory to join this party, under pain of reprisal.

Our agriculture, whose yields still exceeded our needs 23 years ago, since we exported produce, has been destroyed.

According to the actual figures presented by the shah's prime minister and quoted 2 years ago, Iran imports 93 percent of the foodstuffs it consumes. This is the result of the shah's so-called agrarian reform. Our universities are closed half the time; our students are beaten and imprisoned several times each year.

The shah has destroyed our economy and squandered the oil revenues--the wealth of the future--on buying gadget weapons at exorbitant prices. This undermines Iran's independence.

I am against the shah precisely because his policy, subjugated as it is to foreign powers, jeopardizes the progress of my people. When the shah claims to be bringing Iran "to the brink of a great civilization," he is lying and using this excuse to undermine the country's independence and shed the people's blood.

It is because of these indisputable facts that the shah tries to distort our opposition and accuses us of being obscurantist and reactionary. If we manage to overthrow him one day, he will be judged for what he has done to thwart the people's economic and cultural progress; then the whole world will know of his crimes.

[Question] What do you think of the Islamic-Marxist label which the regime uses all the time to denounce the rebels?" Do you have close ties with the extreme left?

[Answer] It was the shah who used this expression, and his lackeys followed suit. It is a false and contradictory concept invented to discredit and eliminate our Moslem people's struggle against the regime. The Islamic idea, based on the oneness of God, is the opposite of materialism. The term "Islamic-Marxist" is ironic.

Another phrase used by the shah and his propaganda machine--"The alliance between black reaction and red subversion"--has the same objective: to frighten the Moslem population and sow confusion among them so as to destroy their opposition to the regime, which is complete and incontrovertible.

There has never been an alliance between the Moslem population fighting the shah and communist elements, extremist or otherwise. In my proclamations I have always emphasized that the Moslem people must remain homogeneous in their struggle and forbid themselves any systematic collaboration with communist elements.

[Question] In the absence of a systematic relationship, would you envisage a tactical alliance with the Marxists in order to overthrow the shah?

[Answer] No, we will not collaborate with the Marxists, not even to overthrow the shah. I have ordered my flock not to do so. We are opposed to their ideas; we know they want to stab us in the back; and if they achieved power they would establish a dictatorial regime contrary to the spirit of Islam.

This being the case, in the society we propose to establish, the Marxist will be free to express themselves because we are convinced that Islam contains the answer to the people's needs. Our faith is capable of standing up against their ideology.

[Question] In your view, what has caused the chain of riots in Iran? What is happening now?

[Answer] The repression exercised by the shah and his father, and the misfortune that has befallen our people--deprived of their freedom, their independence, their progress and their well-being, and showered with false promises, especially over the past 15 years--are at the root of the demonstrations. The deterioration in economic, social and cultural conditions and the scope of the repression have reached intolerable heights. The latest riots herald the start of a gigantic explosion which will have incalculable effects.

The counterdemonstrations organized by the police, with the participation of people paid for the purpose, and the massacres taking place in every town and village are aimed at preventing the shah's overthrow.

[Question] Do you believe that your son was assassinated? If not, why was his death the signal for the explosion?

[Answer] I cannot say what happened with certainty. Nevertheless, I do know that on the eve of his death he was in good health and that, according to reports which have reached me, one of our people called on him that evening. The next day he was dead. How? I cannot decide.

The people's discontent was voiced on this occasion. Of course our people love their servants and consider me their servant, and likewise my son. Subsequently, every massacre organized by the regime provoked fresh demonstrations 40 days later. But the main thing is not my son; it is the revolt of a people against their oppressors.

Creation of an Islamic State

[Question] What is your political program? Do you want to overthrow the regime? With what type of regime do you want to replace it?

[Answer] Our ideal would be the creation of an Islamic state. Nevertheless, our prime concern is to overthrow this autocratic regime. As a first step we would have to form a government corresponding to the people's basic needs.

[Question] What do you mean by Islamic state? One automatically thinks of the Ottoman Empire or Saudi Arabia.

[Answer] The only reference point, in our view, is the time of the Prophet and the Imam Ali.

[Question] Would a return to the 1906 constitution seem to you a valid solution?

[Answer] Provided they are amended, the 1906 constitutional laws could serve as a foundation for the state we advocate. They serve the cause of Islam.

[Question] This constitution preserved the monarchic regime. Do you envisage a monarchy or a republic?

[Answer] The regime we establish will certainly not be a monarchy. That is out of the question.

[Question] Would the accession of the pres nt shah's son to the throne be acceptable to you?

[Answer] We were against the shah's father; we are against the present shah and all his dynasty because the people want nothing to do with them.

[Question] Is the shah's policy in favor of Israel one of the reasons for your opposition to the regime?

[Answer] Yes, because Israel has usurped a Moslem people's land and committed innumerable crimes. By maintaining diplomatic relations with Israel and granting economic aid to that country, the shah is going against the interests of Islam and the Moslems.

[Question] Would you like Iran to join the Arab countries in their struggle against Israel?

[Answer] I have always strongly urged Moslems throughout the world to unite and fight their enemies, including Israel. Unfortunately my appeals have not been heeded by the different regimes which have succeeded each other in Moslem countries.

[Question] What is your attitude toward the United States?

[Answer] In my proclamations I have several times defined my attitude toward the United States and the other big powers which exploit the wealth of poor countries, fostering their agents in these countries and supporting the repression exerted against the peoples of the Third World. The United States, which was behind the 1953 coup d'etat and the shah's return to and continuance in power, has not changed its policy. As long as this is the case, my position will remain unchanged.

[Question] Do you believe, as some people do, that the United States would like to establish a liberal regime in Iran?

[Answer] The declaration on respect for human rights? Nothing but words; I do not believe in it. One only has to observe that, during his visit to Teheran, President Carter repeated his support for the shah and that, what is more, this backing is not contradicted in practice. In any event, we will never accept a regime which is outwardly liberal but dictatorial in substance.

[Question] Do you believe that the shah's regime is capable of becoming more liberal?

[Answer] Never. The very principles of democracy and freedom are in fundamental contradiction to this regime and the very existence of the shah. In our view, there can be no compromise with him; his crimes are countless. The first task for a free regime will be to prepare a precise court case against the shah for the wealth that he has amassed in banks abroad. Real liberalization is impossible as long as the shah is on the throne.

PAKISTANI FOREIGN AFFAIRS OFFICIAL INTERVIEWED BY PARS

LD081345Y Teheran PARS in English 1028 GMT 8 May 78 LD

[Text] Teheran, PANA (PARS News Agency) 7 May--The foreign affairs minister of Pakistan, Agha Shahi, praised the relations between Iran and Pakistan in an interview following his arrival in Teheran this afternoon.

Agha Shahi, who is in Iran for a four-day official visit, added that he had brought a message for His Imperial Majesty, the shahanshah aryamehr, from Pakistani Chief Martial Law Administrator General Ziaul Haq. He added that Iran and Pakistan have always enjoyed (?perfect mutual) understanding and that the Government of Pakistan has greatly benefited from Iran's help. Agha Shahi said that Pakistan respects the shahanshah as one of the most distinguished political leaders in the world and that the shahanshah's insight into the world and regional situations was most commendable.

Agha Shahi said that while in Tehran he would hold (?talks) with Foreign Minister Abbas 'Ali Khal'atbari and other Iranian officials. The talks are expected to focus on issues of mutual interest and the disarmament plans which will be the subject of the forthcoming [word indistinct] meeting of the United Nations Assembly. Other topics to be discussed by Agha Shahi and Iranian officials include nuclear disarmament and the establishment of a nuclear-free region, the establishment of security for non-nuclear countries, and the peaceful exchange of nuclear technology.

Asked about Pakistan's stance on the recent developments in Afghanistan, Agha Shahi said that Pakistan, like Iran, has recognized the new regime in Afghanistan. He noted that the transfer of power there is solely an "internal affair" but that Pakistan could not afford to remain totally indifferent to it. Agha Shahi said that the situation could potentially effect the regional situation.

Replying to a question about the status of CENTO in the future, Agha Shahi said that discussions have already been held but that the organisation has failed to develop in the way it was originally planned.

Later this afternoon, Agha Shahi met and held talks with Khal'atbari at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Received by Shah

LD090956Y Teheran Domestic Service in Persian 0900 GMT 9 May 78 LD

[Text] Mr Agha Shahi, foreign affairs minister of Pakistan, was received by the shah at Niavaran Palace this morning. During the audience Mr Agha Shahi delivered to the shah a special message from Gen Ziaul Haq, chief marshal law administrator of Pakistan. Mr Khal 'atbari, foreign minister, and the Pakistani Ambassador to the Imperial Court also had the honor of being present during the audience.

AFGHANISTAN

TARAKI SETS OUT MAIN POLICY POINTS OF NEW REGIME

LD092000 [Editorial report LD/BK] Kabul Domestic Service in Pushtu at 1530 GMT on 9 May carries a live speech by Afghan Prime Minister Taraki on the main policy lines of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan which have been approved by the Revolutionary Council.

Taraki begins his speech by saying that "the 27 April revolution took place by the will of the workers of Afghanistan under the guidance of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and by the patriotic officers and valiant soldiers of Afghanistan."

Taraki then refers to the injustic, corruption and abuse of power that prevailed in Afghanistan under Daud's regime and how Daud consistently promoted the wishes of the enemies of Afghanistan and of internal and foreign reaction. He says democratic liberties were ruthlessly violated by Daud under the pretext that the people of Afghanistan had not attained sufficient maturity, and in this way betrayed the workers and the freedom-loving people of Afghanistan for a period of 5 years. Taraki continues condemning Daud's regime and its repression and the arrests and persecution of the progressive and patriotic people of Afghanistan. As a result, he says, the armed forces of Afghanistan took action to rescue Afghanistan from Daud's despotism which led to the successful revolution of 27 April.

Taraki then lists the main policy points of the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan which he says have been approved in order to carry out the republic's revolutionary duties through democratic methods.

He begins with domestic policy, saying that it is the duty of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan to safeguard national sovereignty, independence and the values of the revolution whose aim is to serve the people. Realization of the democratic rights of the people and defense of individual freedoms and of national unity, the construction of a national and self-reliant economy, the promotion of agriculture and the raising of the people's standard of living are the main policy objectives of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, Taraki says.

He goes on to list the following domestic policy points:

To introduce democratic land reforms, to reclaim barren land for the benefit of the hardworking farmers and peoples of Afghanistan with their help and participation and to abolish antiquated relations;
To adopt the necessary measures to promote internal and external trade;
To promote and consolidate the state sector of the national economy;
To democratize the government organization;
To find democratic solutions to national issues;
To eliminate imperialist influences in various economic, political, cultural and ideological fields;
"To clear the state organizations of antirevolutionary, antidemocratic and antipeople elements" and to set up democratic government organizations with the people's participation;
"To strengthen and develop the liberating and heroic armed forces of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and to defend the revolution and its achievements;"
To realize the democratic rights of the peoples, workers, farmers, intellectuals, religious leaders and the middle classes--that is, businessmen, professionals and other socioeconomic groups.

To promulgate democratic laws in all fields, laws that correspond to and promote the aims of the 27 April revolution;

To realize equality of the sexes in all social, political, and cultural fields;

To establish schools for the nomads in a democratic manner;

To support and develop domestic industries through investment, guidance and assistance and to provide protection against foreign goods and imports;

To carry out a fundamental review of the sources of state revenue and expenditure in various areas;

To take measures toward reducing indirect taxation and increasing direct taxation for the benefit of the people;

To control and fix prices in areas in which it is deemed necessary for the people's benefit;

To establish educational facilities and means to combat illiteracy in the country;

To promulgate laws relating to health services in order to prevent profiteering and self-seeking practices;

To take necessary measures to prevent the emergence of red tape and bureaucratic practices.

Taraki then moves on to foreign policy, saying that since the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan wishes to promote peace and friendly relations with the countries of the world, it will adhere to the following policy objectives:

To pursue a positive and active policy of nonalinement;

To consolidate goodneighborly relations with all the neighboring countries of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan; The Democratic Republic of Afghanistan wishes to further strengthen and consolidate its friendly relations and all all-round cooperation with the USSR;

"To expand the friendly relations with India;"

"To strengthen the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan's friendly relations with Iran, Pakistan and China;"

To pursue the right of self-determination for the Pushtu and Baluchi people through peaceful negotiation and talks between the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and Pakistan;

To consolidate the fundamentals of world peace; to campaign for the realization of international disarmament and for preventing the proliferation of nuclear weapons and for the closure of foreign military bases;

To campaign against the old and the new imperialism and to support the national liberation movements in Asia, Africa and Latin America;

To support the demands of the Palestinian people for their own national state and for the liberation of the Arab land from Israeli occupation;

To support the just rights of the peoples of southern Africa and their struggle against apartheid and racism;

To observe the Universal Declaration on Human Rights and the UN Charter.

Taraki then calls on his compatriots, now that the Revolutionary Council has undertaken its historical duties, to join hands and unite under the leadership of the Democratic People's Party to advance the national revolution to fruition in the shortest time possible.

He concludes by wishing long life to the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, to the people of Afghanistan and to the forces of national independence, progress, democracy and genuine social justice.

CURFEW, MARTIAL LAW CONTINUE IN KABUL

LD091711Y Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1625 GMT 9 May 78 LD/BK

[Text] Since the night curfew comes into force at 2300, fellow citizens of Kabul are requested to observe the martial law regulations and not to come out of their homes after 2300.

INDONESIA RECOGNIZES NEW AFGHAN GOVERNMENT

BK091548Y Kabul in English to South Asia 1400 GMT 9 May 78 BK

[Text] The Information Department of Minstry of Foreign Affairs has reported that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia has communicated the Indonesian Government's decision to recognize the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan to the Embassy of Afghanistan in Jakarta.

Romanian Recognition

JN091234Y Kabul in Arabic to the Arab World 1000 GMT 9 May 78 JN

[Text] We have learned from the Information Directorate of the Foreign Ministry that His Excellency Aleksandru Boaba, Romanian ambassador to Afghanistan, met with Nur Mohammad Taraki, president and prime minister of Afghanistan, at 1500 yesterday. During the meeting, the Romanian representative presented President Taraki with a letter from Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu on Romania's recognition of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. The Romanian president also expressed in the letter his country's desire for continued promotion of the political, economic, scientific and cultural relations between the two countries.

PRC Recognition

JN091238Y Kabul in Arabic to the Arab World 1000 GMT 9 May 78 JN

[Text] We have learned from the Information Directorate of the Foreign Ministry that His Excellency Huang Ming-ta, PRC ambassador in Kabul, met with Hafezollah Amin, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, at 1630 yesterday. During the meeting, the PRC ambassador conveyed to the foreign minister his country's recognition of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

Egyptian Recognition

NC092300Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 2250 GMT 9 May 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 9 May-- The newspaper AL-AHRAM says in its Wednesday edition that the Arab Republic of Egypt has decided to recognize the revolutionary Government of Afghanistan. The paper adds that Fu'ad 'Abd al-Mubdi', Egypt's ambassador in Kabul, has been informed of this decision.

Nepalese Recognition

BK091508Y Katmandu External Service in English 1450 GMT 9 May 78 BK

[Text] Nepal has recognized the new regime in Afghanistan. The new Government of Afghanistan had requested his majesty's government to accord recognition through her mission in New Delhi, it is learnt.

A Foreign Ministry press note issued in Katmandu today says: Nepal will continue to maintain its relations with Afghanistan. The note further says: His majesty's government expresses the hope that the friendly relations existing between the two countries will grow stronger in future.

LIBYAN FOREIGN SECRETARY AT-TURAYKI ARRIVES IN KABUL

LD091218Y Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1000 GMT 9 May 78 LD

[Text] Kabul, 9 May--Foreign Secretary Dr 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki arrived in Kabul this morning on a visit to Afghanistan to hold contacts and talks with Afghan officials on strengthening relations between the two fraternal peoples.

Dr at-Turayki was welcomed at Kabul airport by the Afghan deputy foreign minister, the Libyan ambassador to Afghanistan and members of the embassy staff.

Comments On Visit

LD091220Y Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0700 GMT 9 May 78 LD

[Text] Tripoli, 9 May--Foreign Secretary Dr 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki has declared that the purpose of his visit to Afghanistan is to hold talks and contacts with Afghan officials. He noted that the Jamahiriyah is concerned about the situation in Afghanistan and, as an Islamic country, we are trying to see to it that it will remain an important element in the Islamic world.

During a stopover at Manamah airport yesterday evening while en route to Kabul, Dr at-Turayki affirmed that the Jamahiriyah welcomes the convening of an Arab summit conference for liberation but not to endorse the capitulatory steps that have been taking place in the Arab arena.

He noted that the front for steadfastness agrees to convening the conference if President Numayri declares the failure of the Egyptian president and if the Egyptian president rejoins the Arab rank.

Dr at-Turayki stressed that the struggle is the sound way to liberate the occupied Arab areas and not negotiations, as some claim. He said that the Jamahiriyah rejects foreign interference in the African continent and that a solution to the Chad issue must come from the continent itself.

Dr at-Turayki held a meeting with the foreign minister of Bahrain during which he discussed bilateral relations and the current Arab situation.

Received by Taraki

LD091847Y Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1715 GMT 9 May 78 LD

[Text] Kabul--Nur Mohammad Taraki, head of the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, this afternoon received foreign secretary Dr 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki who arrived in Kabul this morning on an official visit to Afghanistan. The meeting was attended by the Jamahiriyah ambassador in Kabul and the director of the Foreign Secretariat's Asian Department. The meeting lasted 90 minutes.

Nur Mohammad Taraki expressed his appreciation of the Great 1 September Revolution and its leader Col Mu-ammar al-Qadhdhafi. He said that this visit is considered as political support for us and that the Afghan people appreciate this visit.

The head of the Revolutionary Council of Afghanistan explained the recent developments in Afghanistan and the reasons for the revolution to the foreign secretary. He expressed his confidence in the pioneering democratic experiment achieved by the 1 September Revolution in the Jamahiriyah.

The head of the Revolutionary Council assured the foreign secretary that the revolution in Afghanistan stems from the people and that it will apply the policy of nonalinement and act in the interests of the Afghan people. He added that world imperialism is trying to distort the Afghan revolution by spreading rumors.

Nur Mohammad Taraki said that the revolution was not externally inspired and did not receive any outside help. The Afghan head of state, who asked Dr at-Turayki to convey his greetings to the brother colonel, stressed that the Afghan revolution will stand firmly against Zionism, imperialism and colonialism and that it will stand with the 1 September Revolution in its mission of struggle.

INDIA

VAJPAYEE COMMENTS ON FOREIGN RELATIONS, NUCLEAR FUEL

BK0909257 Delhi ISI in English 0832 GMT 9 May 78 BK

[Text] Atal Bihari Vajpayee, the external affairs minister, declared that India's relations with neighbouring countries were so cordial that they were never so [as received] during the past 30 years, reports PTI.

Addressing a huge public meeting in Chandigarh on May 8, Vajpayee said that the country's relations with Pakistan had improved a lot because India had convinced Pakistan that it bore no ill will towards her. Ours is a big country and as such, feels a great responsibility towards small countries of the region, he said.

Referring to China, the external affairs minister said that certain steps had already been taken to normalise relations with that country. "Given goodwill and understanding our border dispute with China can be resolved amicably."

About nuclear fuel for the Tarapore atomic plant, he said India hoped that America will honour her agreement with us. But we will not compromise our self-respect to get fuel for our plant, he declared.

Vajpayee said that India had social and religious bonds with Nepal besides fraternal relations. We signed two separate trade and transit agreements with Nepal when that country assured India that she would extend a helping hand to curb smuggling on the Indo-Nepal borders, he said and added that India undertook to finance certain projects in Nepal which would help that country become self-reliant in the matter of food. "Our relations with the Soviet Union are also excellent."

VAJPAYEE TO LEAD DELEGATION TO HAVANA NONALINED MEETING

BK0913207 Bombay TIMES OF INDIA in English 7 May 78 p 9 BK

[By our special correspondent]

[Text] New Delhi, May 6--The external affairs minister, Mr A.B. Vajpayee, will lead the Indian delegation at the meeting of the bureau of nonaligned countries to be held in Havana from May 15 to 20.

Mr. Vajpayee is likely to go to Havana via New York. The meeting was due to be held this week in Kabul, but the venue has to be shifted following the overthrow of the previous Afghan Government. The next summit of the nonaligned nations is due to take place in Havana next year.

JOINT STATEMENT ON INDO-PAKISTAN TRADE TALKS ISSUED

BK091539Y Delhi ISI in English 1508 GMT 9 May 78 BK

[Joint press statement on Indo-Pak trade talks--ISI heading]

[Text] The following is the text of the Joint statement on Indo-Pakistan trade talks held in Islamabad from May 6 to 8, 1978:

The commerce secretaries of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and the Government of the Republic of India met in Islamabad from 6 to 8 May 1978 to review trade relations between the two countries. The talks were held in a cordial and friendly atmosphere.

The two sides acknowledged the need for strengthening mutual commerical relations and agreed to promote bilateral trade. The Pakistan side explained that the prevailing regulatory mechanism governing external trade in either country was not suited to the conduct of bilateral trade in accordance with the principle of equality, mutual benefit and diversification which formed the basis of the resumption of trade between the two countries. The Indian side, while explaining its view that trade could be conducted on the pattern followed hitherto, expressed its readiness to cooperate in solving the problems put forward by the Pakistan side.

In recognition of the right of an importing country to seek an orderly marketing arrangement, the two sides considered various regulatory measures which could be adopted to bring about the necessary improvements in the nature and direction of trade. They agreed in principle that indicative lists of goods and commodities in which trade would be in mutual interest would be exchanged. They further decided to resume their talks after a brief adjournment.

NEPAL

PLANTING OF U.S. NUCLEAR DEVICE IN HIMALAYAS 'UNLIKELY'

BK090352Y Bombay TIMES OF INDIA in English 28 Apr 78 p 1 BK

[By Mavin Murve]

[Excerpts] Katmandu, April 27--It is considered "highly unlikely now" that the Radio Science Laboratory of Stanford University in the United States will be permitted to go ahead with its proposal to install a 2 kg electronic device atop Annapurna peak in the central Nepalese Himalayas.

Viewed against the backdrop of the controversy in India over the revelations regarding the secret "planting" of a nuclear-fuelled device to detect radio activity atop Nanda Devi mountain, the proposal, however academic and innocuous it may sound, is likely to be considered potentially controversial.

Stanford University had channelled its proposal through the U.S. mission here, and the device is to be installed for about a year in collaboration with the Council of Science and Technology of Tribhuvan University. It is being described as an elementary device intended to "measure the electric field and having instruments to measure wind currents."

It is gathered that the laboratory has a plan to retrieve the electronic device next year by a mountaineering expedition to Annapurna provided it is not damaged or buried under snow in avalanches and snowstorms so common in the high Himalayan altitude.

A weekly, NEPAL POST, has urged the government to be vigilant and even take technical help from India and China "to take necessary effective measures" to check if any radioactive devices have been planted in Nepal.

SRI LANKA

HAMEED HOLDS TALKS WITH YUGOSLAVIA'S MINIC

BK071222Y Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 7 May 78 BK

[Text] The foreign minister of Yugoslavia, Mr Milos Minic, and his Sri Lanka counterpart, Mr A.C.S. Hameed, yesterday held talks at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Colombo. The nonalined movement and its immediate issues, the Havana meeting, the UN special session on disarmament, developments in the Horn of Africa and the conflict between Vietnam and Kampuchea were some of the areas covered in the talks. The discussions also centered on the situation in the Middle East, the new international economic order, bilateral matters and Sri Lanka's economic policy, including the Mahavelli project and the free trade zone. Both foreign ministers agreed that steps should be taken to insure full participation to make the Havana meeting a success.

With regard to the UN special session on disarmament, the Yugoslav foreign minister welcomed the proposal of the Sri Lanka foreign minister to have a special meeting of nonalined foreign ministers during the UN debate. The nonalined community could chalk out a common stand to influence the decision-making process in the interest of the Third World. The two ministers were of the opinion that the conflict in the Horn of Africa and the clash between Vietnam and Kampuchea could only find a solution through discussion and peaceful negotiations.

Mr Minic expressed his appreciation of Sri Lanka's constructive and positive role as chairman of the nonalined movement and hoped that Sri Lanka would continue to play the same effective role in the future. He also congratulated the Sri Lanka foreign minister on the manner in which he steered the last two nonalined foreign minister's meetings held in New York on the eve of the UN General Assembly of 1977.

BRIEFS

BHUTAN HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT--The Indian minister of external affairs told the Rajya Sabha on 5 May, in reply to a question, that pursuant to an agreement signed between the Royal Government of Bhutan and the Government of India on 23 March 1974, the Government of India agreed to finance the Chukha hydroelectric project in Bhutan at the then estimated cost of rupees 830 million in the ratio of 60 percent grant and 40 percent loan. A Chukha Project Authority has been constituted, and the implementation of the project is progressing satisfactorily under the charge of a general manager. When completed, the project will include a power house with an installed capacity of four units of 84 mw each. The surplus power over and above that may be required for use in Bhutan shall be sold to the Government of India at rates to be worked out on completion of the project. [Delhi ISI in English 1449 GMT 5 May 78 BK]

SWEDISH AID TO INDIA--India and Sweden have signed an agreement for financial assistance to support malaria control work in India. The assistance from the Swedish International Development Agency will be about rupees 145 million for the next 5 years. [Text] [Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 7 May 78 BK]

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